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Champion

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Champion focus
WEDDINGS
SPECIAL PULL-OUT INSIDE

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John and Elizabeth Forster at their Skelmersdale home

Could former childhood sweethearts from Skem be country's longest-wed pair?

A SKELMERSDALE couple believe they could be the UK's longest-wed duo.

John and Elizabeth Forster were prompted to contact the Champion after reading a national newspaper article about Phyllis and George Loftus from Cannock which asked if they could lay clam to the 'title' as they are set to celebrate their 77th wedding anniversary on August 10.

But our local devoted duo can beat that - they tied the knot at the Methodist Church in High Street, Skelmersdale a fortnight earlier than the Loftuses on July 27, 1940!

Now the pair, who first met as teenagers at a local spot popular with courting couples, are wondering if they hold the national record for the most years married.

Full story inside

MOTHER DIES IN DIVING TRAGEDY

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

Family tribute to their 'lovely flower'

THE family of a mother-of-four from Westhead who died in a tragic accident while scuba diving off the coast of Northumberland at the weekend, have paid tribute to their 'lovely flower.'

Carole Linda Edwards, 51, a former London Olympic Games and Commonwealth Games lifeguard, was diving around the Farne Islands with fellow members of the Phoenix Sub Aqua Club based at the Nye Bevan Pool in Skelmersdale on Sunday, April 2, when she was reported missing shortly after failing to resurface from a dive at 11am.

A search and rescue helicopter was despatched from Prestwick, Scotland 100 miles away, to search the surface of the water. Her body was recovered at around 2.30pm by a diver from another club.

Although she was given medical attention by the RNLI, she was declared dead shortly afterwards.

A keen scuba diver and a swimming teacher at Park Pool in Ormskirk, Carole lived with partner Neil, also 51, children William, 24 and Rosie, 21 and stepchildren James, 24, and Helena, 22.

Neil told the Champion: "Carole was a dearly-loved mother, daughter, sister, stepmother and aunty. She was tragically lost while pursuing her passion for scuba diving in the Farne Islands.

Carole Edwards, in a recent photo taken by partner Neil

"She taught hundreds of primary school children to swim at Park Pool and was a lifeguard at the London Olympics and the Commonwealth Games.

"As well as scuba diving, Carole was a keen artist and also shared my love of all things aviation. She was a lovely, lovely lady who will be missed by all who knew her. Goodbye flower."

Brian Dix, chairman of the Phoenix Sub Aqua Club, said: "Carole was a wonderful, bubbly person, keen to support and encourage everyone. She was the most selfless club member we could possibly wish to have. She will be impossible to replace and our hearts go out to her family and friends at this incredibly difficult time."

A spokesperson for the British Sub Aqua Club, to which the Skelmersdale club is affiliated, said: "The officers and members of Phoenix NW Sub Aqua Club are deeply saddened by the loss of our friend and fellow diver, Carole Edwards, who was lost following a dive at the Farne islands.

"Carole was an enthusiastic diver and member of the club having joined in 2012 and will be sadly missed by all who knew her. The club wishes to extend their sincere condolences to Carole's partner and family at this difficult time.

"The circumstances surrounding the incident are subject to an investigation by the coroner's office so no further comment can be made by club members regarding the incident at this time."

Ian Clayton, lifeboats operations manager for the Seahouses branch, said: "We are unsure how this tragedy occurred, but our thoughts are very much with the deceased lady's partner, friends and dive colleagues.

"Police are now conducting inquiries, which will be referred to the coroner. This was a very harrowing incident for all concerned."

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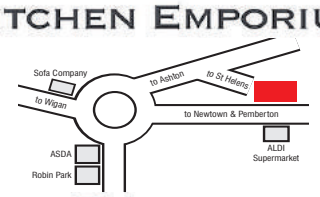

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Bowel cancer charity in drive to increase screening take-up rate

Only 54% of eligible people in West Lancs complete free test

LEADING bowel cancer research charity, Bowel Cancer UK, is encouraging people living in the North West to take part in its programme as part of Bowel Cancer Awareness Month in April.

Figures released by the charity reveal that on average only 53% of people living in the region who are sent the bowel cancer screening test for free in the post actually complete it.

For West Lancashire the figure is only slightly higher at 54.1%.

In April alone across the UK, nearly 3,500 people will be diagnosed with bowel cancer and more than 1,300 will die of the disease. Those figures make it the nation's second biggest cancer killer - but the charity say it shouldn't be as it is treatable and curable, especially if diagnosed early.

The NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme can detect bowel cancer at an early stage in people with no symptoms when it is easier to treat and a greater chance of survival.

If you're registered with a GP and aged 60 to 74, you will receive a test in the post every two years. You carry out the simple test at home in private and it comes with step-by-step instructions. The test looks for hidden blood in your poo, which could be an early sign of bowel cancer.

Bowel Cancer UK chief executive, Deborah Alsina

In 2018, England will replace the current screening test with a simpler and more accurate test. The Faecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) is a more sensitive test than the current one and has the potential to detect more cancers and pre-cancerous polyps, as well as increasing screening participation.

Deborah Alsina, chief executive of Bowel Cancer UK, says: "It's quite simple, bowel cancer screening saves lives. It's predicted that even using the current test, the screening programme will save more than 2,000 lives each year by 2025. I would encourage everyone over 60 to take the test and those who are younger to encourage their loved ones over 60 to complete it. It could save yours or your loved one's life."

Bowel Cancer Awareness Month aims to raise awareness of the importance of taking part in screening and the charity's award-winning health promotion team is looking for work places and community groups to host a talk about screening in April. The 30-minute talk is delivered by a trained health promotion volunteer, who often has a personal experience of bowel cancer.

The programme, which was awarded a Health and Wellbeing Award by the Royal Society of Public Health, stresses the importance of those who are of screening age to take the bowel cancer screening test, raises awareness of the disease as well as good bowel health, and highlights the symptoms and risks.

■ For more information visit bowelcanceruk.org.uk or email volunteer@bowelcanceruk.org.

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Football team could be set to play 'home' games 15 miles away!

Report by **Henry James**

Club officials draw up contingency plan for groundshare arrangement with 'neighbours' Prescot Cables

OFFICIALS of Skelmersdale United say they have secured its immediate future for next season - but it will mean the club playing 'home' games about 15 miles away in Prescot.

Under the agreement they will leave their current ground at the Stanley Industrial Estate in November and enter into a groundshare arrangement with Northern Premier Division One outfit, Prescot Cables.

Skem chairman Paul Griffiths, had warned that the 135-year-old club's future was hanging in the balance after claiming the owners of the ground where the team currently play, the Uretek Stadium in Selby Place, had refused to grant them a new lease.

Mr Griffiths said that the club had until midnight on Friday (March 31) to confirm to the Northern Premier League that they had a ground for next season or face being thrown out of the league.

He said: "The Skelmersdale management board have had to secure the immediate future of the club and achieve security of tenure for next season. The only way that could be achieved was to enter into a groundshare agreement with another club.

"I am glad to say that we have accomplished this and Mr Anthony Zavarona, the chairman of Prescot Cables FC, who has been nothing but extremely helpful, has come to our rescue and I can't thank him enough.

"This will, however, incur great added cost to the club through lost revenue should we not be able to convince Chequer Properties Limited and we eventually have to vacate the ground in November.

"The knock-on effect to the community is also to be considered. We employ staff, we buy supplies from a great many businesses in the local area, and we have an approximate footfall through the ground and social club of 35,000 each year.

Action from Skelmersdale United's recent game with Buxton - from November they could be playing 'home' games at Prescot. Picture by John Driscoll.

"The club, are still looking for the support of the people and businesses of Skelmersdale, although recently we have been contacted by people as far afield as Canada, Australia, and the Middle East."

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper said: "Like the club's fans I am delighted that Skelmersdale United F.C.'s immediate future has been secured and they will still be playing football next season.

"It is clear from the messages I have received from the club's fans and Skelmersdale residents that the football club means a great deal to individuals and to the wider community.

"Throughout the week I have been in constant contact with the football club and have been in contact with representatives of the grounds landlord and with league officials.

"I have seen the statement from the landlord of the current ground at Stormy Corner but I think there needs to be greater clarity on what his intentions are with the ground and for Skelmersdale United Football Club."

A statement issued by Chequer Properties media spokesman, Mike Swift read:

'Chequer Properties Ltd. & Skelmersdale Football Club Ltd: A lease dated 18/11/2005 relating to a football ground & associated property was entered into by the above parties. The document contains standard clauses, including the expiry date and options to extend the term.

'In the run-up to the expiry date both parties have appointed suitably qualified solicitors to act on their behalf. It appears that the last correspondence from the landlord's lawyers dated 14/03/2017 which also contains a reference to the extension clause, its UK Legislation and stands unanswered.

'The Football Association (FA) early each year, requests through its league system, formal confirmation from each registered club a notice of security of tenure and sets a deadline for such receipt. The background to the FA's formal annual request stems from the re-structuring of the British Coal Board estate when a number of football clubs lost their grounds and were unable to complete fixtures scheduled for the forthcoming season.

'Chequer Properties Ltd. cannot comment on behalf of the Football Association, its rules and their application.'

Bank staff's Easter bonus for charity

STAFF at the Co-operative Bank in Skelmersdale have raised £2,000 and donated 85 Easter eggs to Twinkle House in Skelmersdale.

The money was raised over the last few months by staff running a number of events.

Co-op employee, Bev Hayman, said: "We all pushed together and it was a fantastic achievement to raise so much. Thanks to everyone for their support.

"We picked Twinkle House as they are a local charity and some of our colleagues have children who use it."

Jill Boardman, chief executive of Twinkle House commented: "The donation will be used to purchase much-needed items from our Wish List.

"On behalf of everyone at Twinkle House, I would like to say well done and thank-you from the bottom of our hearts to everyone who contributed. You did an amazing job raising the funds and donating Easter Eggs that will make a massive difference to people in our local community. "

Staff from the Co-operative Bank present the cheque and Easter eggs to Twinkle House chief executive Jill Boardman.

The children involved in the ICT group along with the teacher, Miss Deary and the school's ICT safety governor Mrs Cleverdon

School gets top marks for e-safety

ST THOMAS the Martyr CE Primary in Up Holland has been given top marks for e-safety provision.

An assessor from the South West Grid for Learning Trust found that "the school provides a high level of protection for users of new technologies."

Schools are expected to show that they have provided a high standard of e-safety education and awareness for all staff, children and also for parents and carers, to ensure that these users of the new technologies can be safe online.

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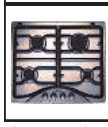
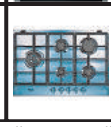
	WHIRLPOOL AKM533 4 Burner Stainless Steel Gas hob	Was £349	Now Only £170	
	WHIRLPOOL AKR3181 5 Burner Stainless Steel Gas Hob	Was £199	Now Only £95	

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SCA starts work on £12m investment programme at Skelmersdale paper mill

Scheme to bring mothballed plant into operation expected to create about 40 jobs

Report by **Henry James**

GLOBAL hygiene company SCA has started work on a £12m investment programme at a paper mill in Skelmersdale that will create about 40 new jobs.

The company expects its Tawd Mill in Paddock Road to be operational by the end of the year, and make SCA the biggest manufacturer in the UK of what is known as through-air-dried (TAD) tissue paper.

Originally opened in 1999, the Tawd Mill was mothballed in 2008 but kept in perfect operating condition until additional manufacturing capacity was required. The investment follows increased customer demand for soft, high-quality TAD tissue.

Each year, thousands of tons of paper on giant 'mother reels' will leave the mill for other SCA sites across the UK - where tissue is converted into some of the country's best-known household brands such as Velvet, Plenty and Cushelle.

SCA's existing Skelmersdale site on Pimbo Road, has 334 employees and is one of the largest sites in Europe for the production of the company's 'Away-from-Home' range that includes Tork folding hand towels used in hospitals, hotels and motorway service areas.

SCA's Tawd Mill site manager, Barry Clarkson, said: "At the moment there is a national shortfall of high-quality through-air-dried tissue, and much of the raw material used in the UK is imported.

"Tawd Mill in Skelmersdale is central to our plans to increase our market share, and making a major increase in our TAD tissue production will give us a competitive edge in a very crowded sector."

'Fantastic'

Following news of the investment, West Lancashire MP Rosie Cooper said: "It is less than two years since I officially opened a new multi-million pound production line at SCA's Skelmersdale converting mill.

"For them to make another investment of this size on their second site in the town is fantastic news, and speaks volumes for Skelmersdale's ability to attract major global companies.

"The company operates in a fiercely competitive marketplace, and their commitment to the town is most welcome. I also saw for myself that the Tawd site is designed with future expansion in mind and hope that this is not the last of the good news!"

Site manager Barry Clarkson shows West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper around SCA's Tawd Mill

Police issue hoax tax call warning

POLICE are warning Skelmersdale residents to be aware of a phone scam in which hoax callers claim to be from HM Revenue & Customs and say the recipient of the call owes £900 in unpaid tax.

Officers are advising anyone receiving a call from the number - 0200 3330275 - to hang up immediately and contact HM Revenue & Customs directly.

One local resident, 72-year-old Sandra Robinson, from Old Skelmersdale, received a call from the number and a message was left on her answer phone from a company claiming to be from HM Revenue & Customs who said they were filing a lawsuit against her.

She said: "I have elderly friends who if this happened to them, they might fall for it. We received a recorded message claiming to be from the HMRC telling us to press one to speak to a police officer and how they were going to file a lawsuit against me.

"I feel they maybe targeting the elderly. You read stories in the newspapers of bogus police officers calling round to people's homes."

A spokesman for Skelmersdale and Ormskirk Neighbourhood Policing Team had this message for residents in West Lancashire: " We have had reports of hoax phone calls that claim to be from HM Revenue & Customs.

"The phone call (from number 0200 3330275) claims that the recipient of the call owes £900 in tax.

"We strictly advise that if you receive this call, to not engage with them, hang up and contact HM Revenue & Customs directly to see if there is any truth in you owing the taxman money.

"Stay safe."

Primary pupils on course for county games finals

PUPILS at a Skelmersdale primary school are celebrating after steering their way into the finals of the largest youth sporting event in Lancashire.

Pupils from Woodland Community Primary battled it out against 10 other West Lancashire schools in orienteering.

They will now represent the borough at the SPAR Lancashire School Games where they will compete against teams from 14 other districts in a bid to be crowned county champions.

The youngsters from the school in Heathgate, Birch Green secured success in the orienteering showdown at Tarleton Academy after navigating themselves around a challenging course in a bid to locate a series of control points.

Chris Hart, school games organiser for West Lancashire who arranged the event, said: "Orienteering is a fun and inclusive way to get children of all abilities involved in competitive sport, so it's always one of the most contested competitions in the school games calendar.

"I wish Woodland Community Primary School all the best in the county finals - I'll be rooting for them!"

The Woodland Community Primary orienteering team who will represent West Lancashire at the SPAR Lancashire School Games finals at Blackpool in July

Now in its 11th year, the SPAR Lancashire School Games provides all children in the county with the opportunity to take part in competitive sport.

The finals will be held at Blackpool's Stanley Park on Tuesday, July 4, where more than 2,000 children will compete in a range of sports including gymnastics, football and athletics, as well as two new additions to the 2017 line-up, mixed cricket and touch rugby.

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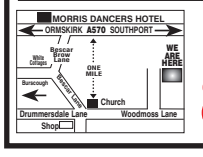

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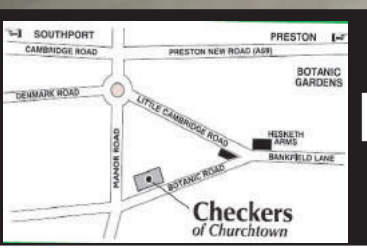

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Priest sexually abused teenage boy repeatedly at seminary, court told

Report by **Lynda Roughley**

A CATHOLIC priest repeatedly sexually abused a young boy in his care "breaching that trust in a spectacular and horrific way," a court has heard.

The boy was just 13 and 14 years old when Father Michael Higginbottom allegedly began seriously abusing him in varied ways at a seminary in West Lancashire.

The victim "recalls the college as a cold, dark and forbidding place. He told police that for him it was the venue for 'mental, physical and sexual abuse'," claimed David Temkin, prosecuting.

Fr. Higginbottom, now aged 74, of West Farm Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, is on trial at Liverpool Crown Court. He denies eight offences, four of buggery and four of indecent assault, alleged to have taken place between September, 1978 and March,1979.

Mr Temkin told the jury of six men and six women yesterday (Tuesday) that Higginbottom had been a priest and teacher at St Joseph's College, Up Holland, although he had not trained as a teacher.

The four-storey seminary, which no longer exists, catered for boys aged 11 to 18, many of whom were considering a vocation in the priesthood and boarded there during term time.

The alleged victim "told police that the defendant would use a strap and a cane on him to inflict punishment. He recalls the defendant telling him that he could 'make this as easy or as hard' as he wanted."

After just a week or so he took the boy into his living quarters and locked the door. He ordered him to undress and undressed himself and began molesting him. "The defendant told him that things would get easier for him at St Joseph's College." alleged Mr Temkin.

He then committed a sexual offence on him which was the first "of many such occasions."

On other occasions he made the boy perform sexual acts on him. "That act of sexual abuse happened again and again."

The venue for most of the sexual abuse was the defendant's living quarters and if he did not attend at the appointed time he would be struck with a strap as a form of punishment.

Mr Temkin alleged that even if the boy was in the college infirmary Higginbottom "would come to see him and the same kind of sexual abuse would take place there.

"He cannot remember exactly how many times the sexual abuse took place during his time at the college. All that he was able to tell the police was that it was 'a lot'."

The court heard that his alleged ordeal came to an end on a day when students were allowed to go home for St Joseph's Day and he purposely ensured he would not have to return.

He stole an item and made sure he was caught with it and was expelled. "He ran to meet his parents so that they could take him home and he never went back," claimed Mr Temkin.

For many years he did not reveal what had happened to him but in 2013 he told a friend who encouraged him to report matters to the police.

Fr. Higginbottom was arrested on April 13, 2015 at his home in Newcastle. When interviewed he denied all the allegations describing them as "total lies" and said he did not remember the boy.

He said he had been ordained as priest on March 1, 1969 and had worked at the college from 1974 to 1987. He had been a physics mater, a football coach and a form teacher.

He said he had enjoyed his time at the college. He said he was not trained as a teacher and said he lived at the college.

He would let boys use his room to make coffee and watch television and watch movies. He said it was common for teachers to let students into their rooms.

"He strenuously denied all of the allegations and added that he had never been attracted to boys or men."

● The trial, expected to last about three weeks, continues

The dog on the pitch during the Skelmersdale United's game at Halesowen at the weekend

Dog stops play at Skem match!

SKELMERSDALE United's game against Halesowen Town at the weekend had to be stopped for six minutes when a dog wandered onto the pitch!

The untimely interruption occurred during the first half of the game at the Grove ground when a beagle found its way onto the playing area.

Halesowen Town's commercial manager, Dave Hawley, said: "It was crazy, everyone was trying to get it and it kept running off."

Eventually the match was able to be continued when the errant pet's owner and home defender, Asa Charlton finally managed to tackle the four-legged intruder.

Sadly, the distraction didn't help Skem who went on to lose the game 1-0.

With their 77th wedding anniversary on the horizon, are John and Elizabeth UK's longest-married couple?

Report by **Henry James**

Teenage sweethearts' romance has really stood the test of time

'COULD we be the country's longest-married couple'?

That was the question posed by John and Elizabeth Forster when they contacted the Champion after reading a national newspaper article about Phyllis and George Loftus.

The Loftuses from Cannock, Staffordshire are set to celebrate their 77th wedding anniversary on August 10 and the article suggsted they might qualify for that title.

But we've got bad news for them... our local devoted duo can beat that! They tied the knot at the Methodist Church in High Street, Skelmersdale a fortnight earlier on July 27, 1940!

John and Elizabeth, both aged 97, first met as 16-year-olds in Sandy Lane, then a popular meeting place for courting couples and hopeful suitors.

The couple also both worked at the Progressive Shoe Company at the time, which used to be situated at the top of Sandy Lane.

Their wages were 10 shillings a week (50p in today's money) and they had just enough spend for a weekly trip to the local picture house (Billy Shaw's, as it was then).

John worked at the shoe firm for 34 years and then at the telephone exchange for 17 years, while Elizabeth later worked as a cook at Glenburn Sports College.

As with many couples of the time, John and Elizabeth's romance was rudely interrupted by the start of the Second World War and John was called up to the army in February 1940 and stationed in Scotland.

John and Elizabeth on their wedding day in July 1940

When they decided to get married, John managed to secure a 48-hour pass, coming back to Skemersdale on the Friday, getting wed on the Saturday and back to duty on the Sunday!

He said: "I did manage to get home a few times while serving in the RA anti-aircraft regiment then eventually I was transferred to Germany before being demobbed in 1946.

"Times were hard after the war with just basic food so we appreciated it when times became better."

Enriched

The couple had three children, Alan, Sheila and John, and now have grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

"Our life has been enriched by our loving family and all of this has helped us to enjoy our married life."

John was also heavily involved in the sporting scene in the town. A former secretary of Skelmersdale United FC, he is also a life member of Skelmersdale Cricket Club having served as player, secretary, president and chairman.

"I have always enjoyed taking an interest in the local football and cricket club, playing and serving as officials for both clubs."

And the secret of their long-lasting union? John said: "We have always been together and we have always been a very close family."

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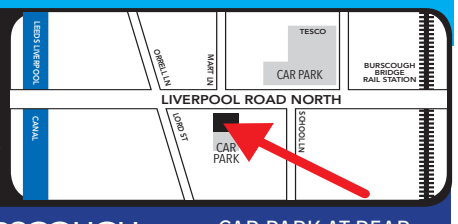

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Register to vote deadline looms

VOTERS in West Lancashire have just over a week to make sure that they have registered in time to vote in the Lancashire County Council elections on Thursday, May 4.

The borough council is reminding residents that they need to register by next Thursday, April 13.

Electoral Registration Officer for West Lancashire, Kim Webber, said: "Time is running out to make sure you can take part in elections this May. It's quick and easy to register, but after the deadline it will be too late."

To register, visit www.gov.uk/register-to-vote before April 13 .

Council warning over legal notices

WEST Lancs Council is warning local residents and businesses they must comply with legal notices requiring them to give the authority information after a businessman was prosecuted in a relation to a fly-tipping incident.

Mark McLaughlin from Prescot, was fined £230 and ordered to pay £400.54 costs and a £30 victim surcharge at Wigan Magistrates Court for offences contrary to the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

The court heard that construction waste fly-tipped on Sandy Lane, Rufford, in August 2016 was traced back to a former nightclub in Liverpool city centre.

Council staff spoke to the building owners and they provided the details of Mark McLaughlin as the person responsible for removing the waste from their business.

Mr McLaughlin in turn stated that he believed he knew who was responsible for removing this waste but did not provide details to the authority.

The construction waste fly-tipped in Sandy Lane in Rufford

The council served a notice on Mr McLaughlin requiring him to provide full contact details for the person who removed this waste. As Mr McLaughlin failed to comply with this notice, legal proceedings were taken against him as he had prevented the council from fully investigating the fly-tipping incident.

Dave Tilleray, who heads up the council's environmental health team, said: "This person was prosecuted for failing to give the council information that could have assisted us in bringing a fly-tipper to justice. This prosecution sends out a clear message that if the council serves on you a legal notice, you must comply with it, or face the consequences."

Problems with fly-tipping can be reported 24 hours a day on the council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/flytipping. You can also report problems with litter or fly-tipping by calling 01695 577177 between 8.30am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday.

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Local pensioners enjoy afternoon tea courtesy of the Skelmersdale Prince's Trust team at West Lancs College

Prince's Trust team treat OAPs to afternoon tea

MEMBERS of the Prince's Trust Skelmersdale Team 49 treated local pensioners to afternoon tea in the restaurant at West Lancashire College.

The young people raised funding for the event by staging activities, including a bucket-shake in the Asda supermarket, as part of their 'supporting others' unit which involves interaction with other groups within their local community.

The team thanked Lynda Duffy and Asda for their continued support, Ronald Serridge for playing the piano, Lydia Elliot for singing and all the pensioners who attended.

Lorraine Murt, Prince's Trust Team leader for Skelmersdale, said: "I am very proud of all Team 49 for working so hard to organise this event. It wasn't easy but it does go to show all the hard work and dedication is appreciated by many."

Next team start date for the Skelmersdale area is April 24. For more information call Lorraine Murt on 07786361675 or email lorraine.murt@westlancs.ac.uk.

Step forward in bid to save Glenburn football pitches

Report by **Henry James**

PLANS to save the state-of-the-art 3G football pitches on the former Glenburn Sports College site have taken a positive step forward that could see school pupils and the wider community using the pitches once again.

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper joined Jo Whitfield business manager of Delph Side Community Primary School, Kevin Davidson of the SHARES group, sports coach Jack England and Skelmersdale Central County Councillor Terry Aldridge for an on-site inspection to assess the condition of the facilities which have not been maintained since the closure of the college.

This follows Delph Side Community Primary School's meeting with officers from Lancashire County Council during which they were informed that, "from an estates point of view we are happy for you to have the equipment."

This breakthrough keeps hopes alive that the football pitches in the heart of the town can be saved for the benefit of the community.

Initially, the county council and Delph Side Primary had received conflicting advice on whether the pitches could be relocated preventing any progress.

Now the way has been cleared for Delph Side Primary and partners, including SHARES, to pursue the planning permission required to relocate the facilities and equipment.

It will also allow for the appropriate work to establish what will be required to move the facility across to Delph Side School's grounds in Tanhouse.

Ms Cooper will be working with the school on securing the funding necessary to prepare the new site for the transfer of the 3G pitches and equipment, such as fencing, floodlights and goalposts.

Speaking after the site visit, Rosie Cooper said: "The possibility the football pitches could be saved for the local community is great news, though there is still a considerable amount of work required to make this a reality.

"Delph Side Primary have been proactive in their pursuit of saving these facilities. The hard work of Jo and her colleagues has paid off.

Commitment

"During our pitch inspection we discussed the importance of securing funding to save the facility.

"We all share the same commitment and determination to protect the 3G football pitches as Skelmersdale has already lost too many of its sports facilities."

Jo Whitfield said: "Being able to keep such state-of-the-art sports facilities within our community here in the centre of Skelmersdale would be a massive boost to local school pupils and the whole community.

"There has been a considerable amount of work just to get to this point where Lancashire County Council have been willing to even consider the relocation of the football pitches.

"We now want to move quickly with securing planning permission, establishing the practicalities of moving the equipment and what it will cost to do so.

"It is great to have the support of our MP Rosie Cooper, Councillor Aldridge and our partners, such as SHARES, in working with us to save these much-needed sports facilities."

Kevin Davidson, chief executive of SHARES, commented: "SHARES are committed to doing everything we can to support Delph Side on this project that is about more than football pitches. It is about the health and wellbeing of individuals, encouraging them to be active.

"There is great social and community benefits that can be achieved through people participating in sports activity, in bringing people together, in a town that has already lost vital local sports facilities."

Gary Pearse, head of the estates service for Lancashire County Council, said: "We have always been clear that we're happy to find groups and organisations to take over these pitches, so that these facilities can continue to benefit the local community.

"We've had expert advice from the original contractors who installed these pitches who advised that it wasn't possible to relocate all elements of the 3G facility.

"However we're happy to continue looking into options to reopen, or allow relocation of the facility if this is shown to be possible."

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Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Liz Savage, and consort, Councillor Noel Delaney with members of Ormskirk Community Partnership at the opening of last year's Gingerbread Festival

Volunteers needed to help prepare for Gingerbread Festival

FOLLOWING the success of last year's inaugural Ormskirk Gingerbread Festival, organisers, the Ormskirk Community Partnership (OCP) are seeking volunteers to help make this year's event, on Saturday, July 29, bigger and better.

Dave Mutch from OCP said: "Last year's event was fantastic and we'll be bringing back all the favourites at this year's event, including musicians, magicians, actors and clowns.

"Meanwhile, families can take part in the gingerbread trail around the town centre with some great prizes to be won.

"The Gingerbread Festival is being held as part of the historic Saturday market. It is a celebration of our local heritage bringing the community together to enjoy a wide range of street stalls, vintage games, music and entertainment, great activities and fun for all the family.

"But we need volunteers to make the day a success. We would welcome support in preparing for the festival in the coming months, as well as enthusiastic volunteers to help on the day.

"Volunteer roles include finding and booking entertainment, publicity, staffing stalls, as well as photography on the day.

"We're also looking for musicians and performers, face painters, and other family entertainers who can be part of the event."

The OCP is also seeking local residents willing to talk about their memories of Ormskirk in years gone-by as part of the group's heritage project.

Memories

If you lived in the town in the 1940s, 1950s or 1960s and are happy to talk about those times, they would like to hear from you.

Dave Mutch added: "We can come and talk to you or meet over a cuppa. Your memories will be part of our Heritage Project and will be available on our website. Your memories can be anonymous, if you wish, and you would be providing a gift to future generations.

"If you can help with the festival or would like to contact us with your memories please email to suerobinhill@aol.com or phone/text to 07896 991 090."

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Hillsborough book author to give reading at library

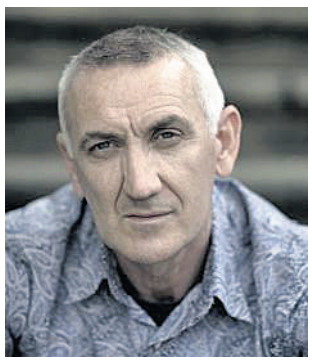
THE author of a book telling the story of the Hillsborough disaster will read extracts from the work at Skelmersdale library to mark World Book Night (Sunday, April 23).

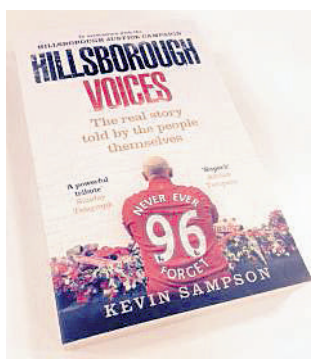
Writer Kevin Sampson will be joined by survivor and former Skelmersdale resident Damian Kavanagh at the free event running from 7 to 8.30pm on Monday, April 24.

As well as reading extracts, Kevin will discuss the book and issues surrounding the tragic events of that fateful day with Damian and members of the public.

Published in May 2016 in association with the Hillsborough Justice Campaign, *Hillsborough Voices* features a collection of first-hand accounts about the disaster from Liverpool FC players, survivors, bereaved family members, campaigners, politicians and medical professionals. The book also describes the consequences of the tragedy and the ensuing campaigns for justice.

County Councillor Marcus Johnstone, Lancashire County Council's cabinet member for environment, planning and cultural services, said: "It is important to have these first-hand testimonies in print as a legacy for future generations.





Above: Author Kevin Sampson *(Picture by Kevin Cummins)* **and the cover of his book**

"This book is an accurate account of what happened at that football match, and what occurred afterwards. I really hope that as many people as possible will go along to support the event."

Kevin Sampson, added: "I'm delighted that this event is being held to celebrate World Book Night, in a library. Hopefully it will encourage more people to read the book at grass-roots level.

"My modest aim for *Hillsborough Voices* is that, every time somebody reads the book, every time we discuss it in public, every time someone borrows it from the library or gives a talk in school, each of those moments reclaims a piece of the truth for posterity.

"For me, this is part of the function of history - that future generations should be able to have proper access to reliable accounts.

"These are the stories of the people who were actually there on the day, and were directly affected by what happened."

● **Places for the event are limited and booking is essential. You can book by calling in at Skelmersdale library, Southway; emailing Skelmersdale.library@lancashire.gov.uk; or by ringing 0300 123 6703.**

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Care trust aim to cut legal costs with new system

LANCASHIRE Care NHS Foundation Trust has introduced a new system aimed at streamlining the amount of legal advice sought by health staff.

The Knowledge and Legal Advice Centre (KnowLa) was set up following a review of the trust's legal services.

The review identified an inconsistent approach to the way in which the trust sought legal advice and how this was then used and shared within the organisation.

It was originally envisaged that the system would just capture advice from solicitors, but while preparing for a Care Quality Commission visit it became clear there was the potential to create a system including knowledge and advice from internal sources too.

KnowLa is expected to save the trust money on its annual legal services budget. It is split into different legal categories - corporate finance and procurement; contracts and commercial; employment; healthcare law; information governance; mental health legislation; and property law.

Development of the system has been strongly supported by the trust's chair, David Eva who said: "The knowledge centre is a brilliant idea. NHS trusts spend an awful lot of time and money getting legal advice and managers often put off or delay making decisions because they are not sure of the consequences that may result. Inevitably a huge amount of duplication takes place. The knowledge centre pools all the advice and legal guidance and creates a fantastic resource to help managers at all levels get the guidance they need at the touch of a button.

"The result should be faster decisions, improved service and savings in legal fees which in the current financial climate makes this a great investment."

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Check your travel options on Grand National day

Merseyrail vow to focus on getting racegoers to Aintree despite strike - but warn other services will be hit

PEOPLE aiming to use rail services on Saturday, April 8 are being advised to consider their travel options ahead of a second planned 24-hour strike affecting both Merseyrail and Northern services.

Timetables for both operators have had to be greatly revised and reduced as guard members of the RMT union are once again set to walk out in the row over the introduction of driver-only trains.

Merseyrail has had to assume that train drivers will once again refuse to cross RMT's picket lines, as happened on the first strike day on Monday, March 13.

The limited Merseyrail services that will be running will be focussed on getting people to and from the Grand National, so people who aren't going to Aintree are being warned that the network is likely to be very busy and people on the City Line are advised to check before they travel if they usually use Northern services.

The City Region's extensive bus network is being recommended as an alternative transport option.

People who are intending to travel further afield will still be able to get mainline services as other operators will be unaffected by the industrial action.

Frank Rogers, chief executive of Merseytravel, said: "The RMT have effectively put us in a no-win situation. In taking the difficult decision to prioritise services to get people to and from one of the biggest events in the region - one that is enjoyed locally and globally - means that unfortunately we have no choice but to disadvantage other people getting to work or wanting to enjoy their weekends.

"We are trying to limit the disruption as far as possible, such as working with operators to strengthen bus services and by ensuring people have the help and guidance they need in considering their other options."

One of the new driver-only trains

Merseyrail managing director, Jan Chaudhry-van der Velde, added: "The timetable we are running is designed to get as many people as possible safely to the region's most popular event of the year. We realise that this means reduced or no train services on other parts of the network and we apologise for non-racegoers who may not be able to take the train that day or whose journeys will be less straightforward.

"Whether the RMT likes it or not, new trains will be brought in over the next few years."

Merseytravel have issued the following key advice if you're travelling other than to get to the Grand National:

● Check before you travel. There will be limited Merseyrail services focussed on getting people to and from Aintree for the Grand National. These services are likely to be very busy. There will be mainline rail services in and out of the City Region, but services run by Northern will be reduced and run to a revised timetable.

● Affected rail services will start later and finish earlier. Don't be caught out.

● Leave longer for your journey.

● You may want to consider other public transport options. There is an extensive bus network across the City Region.

● Stick to public transport wherever possible to reduce congestion on key routes.

● Full details of Merseyrail services and rail replacement buses are on the website www.merseyrail.org/strike, on Twitter (@Merseyrail) and on posters at all stations.

● For the latest on Northern services visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or www.northernrailway.co.uk/industrialaction and follow @northernassist on Twitter.

● For more travel options and advice visit www.merseytravel.gov.uk/railstrike or call Merseytravel if you need more help in planning your journeys on 0151 236 7676.

Vital role in store for health commissioning group's latest recruit

New lay member to chair primary care committee

Report by **Henry James**

NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has announced the appointment of Steve Gross as its new lay member.

Having previously worked as executive director of adult services, health and wellbeing for Lancashire County Council, Steve's appointment as a lay member is a result of the group being granted a level three co-commissioning of local GP practices from NHS England as of April, 2017.

Level three co-commissioning is the highest level of commissioning available to a CCG and moves the West Lancs group further in line with others across Lancashire and nationwide. It means that they will take the lead on decisions on how funding is spent in the region across primary care.

A new delegated primary care committee has been established which Steve will chair, working collaboratively with NHS England, neighbouring CCGs and Public Health to address the wider determinants to the health and wellbeing of residents.

Steve Gross

Steve said: "This is an exciting time for me to join the CCG, with the decision to move to level three co-commissioning.

"I have worked closely with Lancashire CCGs and hospitals for many years and have considerable experience of health and social care redesign and improvement. I am looking forward to bringing this experience to NHS West Lancashire CCG and working to help tackle some of the major health and social care issues facing our residents."

Mike Maguire, chief officer at NHS West Lancashire CCG, said: "The decision for the CCG to move to level three co-commissioning is an important development for the health and wellbeing of the residents that we serve.

'Invaluable'

"It will mean that the CCG can take more control on how funding across our GP practices is spent, meaning that we focus on local issues that we know are impacting our population.

"Steve's appointment will be vital in this area as we will need to ensure that we are transparent and avoid any possible conflicts of interest that may arise because of this move.

"His wealth of experience in health and social care, along with his vital role as chair of our newly-formed delegated primary care committee will prove invaluable. We're delighted to welcome Steve to the CCG."

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92% of county's schools rated good or outstanding

LATEST government figures show that more than nine out of 10 schools in Lancashire are rated as 'good' or 'outstanding.'

Based on Ofsted inspection results, Lancashire is in the top quarter in the country.

The figures released this month show that 23.8% of the county's schools were rated outstanding, while 68.5% were adjudged good. This compared to 21.1% and 68.3% respectively for England as a whole.

Lancashire's figure for 'requires improvement' ratings is also 2.5%, lower than the national average at 8.9%, while just 1.3% of schools were judged 'inadequate', while the national average was 1.7%.

County Councillor Matthew Tomlinson, Lancashire's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "It's great to see that the latest statistics from the Department for Education (DfE) back up what we already know that the quality of schools in Lancashire is among the best in the country.

County Councillor Matthew Tomlinson

"To have 2.7% more 'outstanding' schools than the England average is not easy, as outstanding ratings are very difficult to achieve. I'm genuinely proud of our schools here in Lancashire. These figures clearly demonstrate the high quality of headteachers, their staff and governors and the commitment of pupils and families.

"Together, we are working hard to fulfil our ambition that all our pupils attend a school rated as good or better and we have an excellent track record in helping schools achieve this. The majority of schools receive their support and advisory services from the county council and I think this continued success is a tribute to the strong partnership we have with Lancashire schools."

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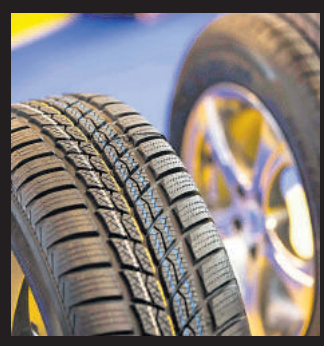

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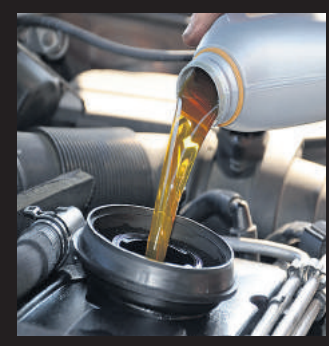

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District Scouts HQ revamp complete

THE Ormskirk and District Scouts Association, which serves 1,500 young people aged between six and 25 across the whole of the West Lancashire area, has completed the redevelopment of its headquarters in Hall Lane, Lathom.

The building, which is more than 100 years old, has had a complete refurbishment providing it with up-to-date facilities and is now totally disabled-friendly.

A new toilet and kitchen block extension has been added, while the main building has been reconfigured to provide modern meeting rooms, an office, large hall and a shop selling Scout clothing and equipment.

Total cost for the building work on the project was £160,000, plus additional costs for furniture and fittings of £10,000.

The Scouts raised £50,000 themselves through various fundraising events and there were grants and individual donations of £70,000.

Tony Charnock, chairman of Ormskirk & District Scouts Association, said: "It's wonderful to finally complete the redevelopment of our district headquarters, thanks to the tremendous support of all concerned. It's been a real team effort.

"Grants were received from White Moss Community Development, the Garfield Weston Foundation, West Lancashire Freemasons and The Bernard Sunley Foundation and there have been individual donations received as well as from supporters on our Crowdfunding page.

"Local firms were also very generous in providing the floor coverings - West Lancashire Flooring of Ormskirk and Walton Flooring of Burscough - and the furniture for the meeting room and office was kindly donated by Gresham Furniture.

"We borrowed the rest in loans from the Scouts which still need to be paid back so any more donations would be greatly appreciated!"

The redeveloped headquarters are now being used by the Scouts for their regular activities, along with training programmes for adult leaders and helpers.

The refurbished Scouts headquarters in Hall Lane, Lathom

It is also being used by the local community, an aspect that the Scouts are looking to encourage as Lathom has no community facility in the village.

Tony added: "As one of the largest organisations in West Lancashire, the Scouts are continuing to provide regular activities and opportunities for personal development for more than 1,500 young people.

"And we always welcome new recruits and helpers. If you want to be involved as an adult helper or you wish your child to become involved, you can contact us through our website at www.ormskirk-scouts.org.uk."

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

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Council should secure Buck for community as a heritage centre

I WOULD like to respond to two articles in the Champion on March 22.

The first was on the front page regarding the disrepair of the Buck i' th' Vine pub on Burscough Street, Ormskirk, the second was on Councillor Ian Moran and the plans to secure Ormskirk's future survival and increase the footfall with in the town centre. As a resident of Ormskirk I would like to share my opinion of how I see a way to bring this about.

In the first article it was pointed out how the Buck i' th' Vine was up for sale with planning permission for yet more student accommodation.

Is this not a golden opportunity for the council to secure the building for the community, then sympathetically restore it to be used as a visitor/tourist centre and utilise the history of the building to restore the historical status of the town?

This is the oldest building left standing in Ormskirk, built in the late 17th century. It is in a prime location within the town and could be a first point of call for those visiting the town.

The building could have displays of local interests. It could have a small shop selling local history books/postcards/walking maps and the famous Ormskirk gingerbread.

Instead of student accommodation there could be hotel rooms to encourage visitors to stay in the town. There are quite a few historical societies in the town , I am sure they would be able to provide exhibitions of artefacts for the building. The Wetherspoons pub has picked up on this and displays thing of interest about the town on its walls.

For the town to move forward I feel it is to important to reflect on the past and build on this. Many of the old towns I visit when travelling about the country seem to make the most of their historical buildings to promote the area. This in turn promotes pride in the residents, a thing we seem to be lacking in Ormskirk at the moment.

We need to make sure the Buck i' th' vine does not go the way of the rest of Ormskir'ks historical building went in the 1960s and 70s.

It would be a crying shame for the Buck i' th' Vine to be lost to the community. If properly promoted this could give people more reason to visit Ormskirk, and help to build up the town.

Mrs V. Salkeld, by email

Town is looking tired and past its sell-by date

I READ the Ormskirk Champion' s front-page article, 'Buck your ideas up' (March 22) regarding the Buck i' th' Vine's shabby appearance to people visiting the town.

I walked into Ormskirk from Morrisons and I thought that the town looks tired and past its sell-by date.

The number of empty shops, charity shops and nondescript shops is depressing.

You look at the number of pubs that have shut over the last year and have found no better usage than student accommodation - that is a sign that the town is going nowhere. We could probably rename Ormskirk 'Studentville'!

Is that really the best the council can come up with? Are they unable, unwilling or inept in finding or pursuing more original tenants?

It needs a boost, a revamp in its appearance and the type of shops a thriving town needs.

What's going to happen to the now-closed Post Office, more student accommodation?

I have got nothing against students, but cannot Edge Hill University build more accommodation on their ever-expanding campus?

Can we see bigger known retailers being invited into Ormskirk or more artisan shops being allowed to open up?

N. Russell, Ormskirk, by email

PICTURE of the week

Bowlers got more exercise than they bargained for at Ormskirk Bowling Club on Saturday when they had to leap into action to stop their gazebo blowing away when a gust of wind blew up as they hosted the Mayor's Charity Cup. Thankfully the weather later improved. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Drop us a line

■ **IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?**

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

Is bid to hamper Brexit prompted by EU gravy train disappearing down track?

ISN'T it interesting how many obscenely wealthy ex-ministers and MPs who have spent their careers with their noses in the Euro-trough are now coming forward to try and hamper the UK's exit from the EU?

Presumably it's because they can see the EU gravy train disappearing up the tracks without them.

Make no mistake, Blair, Major and the rest of the 'club' will be alright whatever happens and, as George Osborne is so deftly proving, you can never have too much personal wealth.

Not so the rest of us; the voters who aren't members of that elite club.

To parody George Orwell's famous quote from Animal Farm: 'The voters outside looked from Conservative to Labour, and from Labour to Conservative and from Conservative to Labour again; but already it was impossible to say which was which.'

R.S. by email

Magical night

WE took our six-year-old daughter Molly to the premiere of Beauty and the Beast at Wigan Empire.

We were all excited to see the film and she was dressed up as Belle, as were many other little princesses.

We were greeted by a 'real' Princess Belle and friends supplied by Angels Parties. They had their pictures taken with the children and this made my daughter's evening extra-special she was thrilled as she had no idea they were going to be there.

All the children were really pleased to meet the princesses, such a great thing for Angels Parties to do, for free too.

The film was brilliant, we all enjoyed it. A night we will all truly remember, so magical.

Kelly Bates, Skelmersdale

Derelict former station master's house an eyesore

READING the Champion (March 22) I note that our MP, Rosie Cooper is doing everything to stop buildings becoming unsightly, such as the Buck i' th' Vine, and bringing them to the notice of West Lancashire Borough Council and asking them to take action.

Yet the Buck i' th' Vine is not as noticeable as the biggest eyesore in Maghull, which has been left for years to slowly deteriorate, becoming more or less derelict.

I refer to the former station master's house at Maghull station. I have watched it for years.

Where are Maghull's councillors or MP?

What a sight for the hundreds of commuters who use the trains everyday.

If this had been a private property the council would have had it demolished years ago.

W. E. Baybutt, Burscough

Loss of 313 bus service would be a nightmare for many

HOW much lower can Skemersdale sink?

Now a large part of the town faces not having a bus service with the scrapping of the 313. Lancashire County Council must not allow this to happen.

Land is sold for even more houses to be built, yet services for the people living in the town get less and less.

There are local elections in May, so people know what to do if the current council does nothing to stop this cut.

So many people rely on this bus service it would be an utter nightmare for many should this go ahead.

Paul Barker, Firwood, Skelmersdale

I EXPECTED Arriva to stop the 313 the same way they stopped the 312.

When they changed the 395 they did not have to stop the 310 going round Ashurst, they could have still run it that way then had it turn left at Half-Mile Island then right at the next roundabout to join the 375/385 route - but that would have needed someone having to think.

We need to get rid of Arriva in Skelmersdale and get another company who think of people.

We have had two small bus companies trying to run routes in Skelmersdale but they were squeezed out. Please, Lancashire County Council get us a better bus company.

Leslie Mayers, by email

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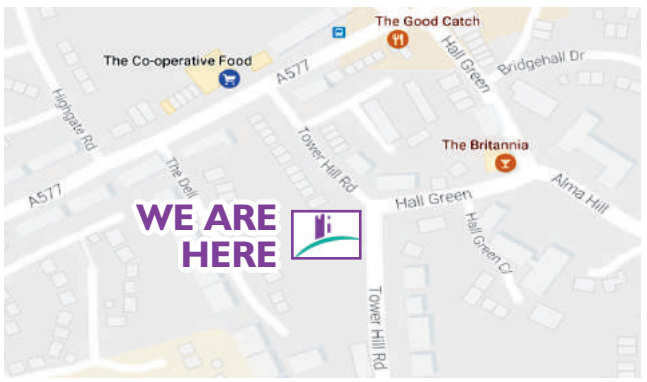

We are Hannah and James Breeze and we have recently moved from Worcester to become the proud owners of Towerhill Dental Surgery in Upholland. Hannah trained in London and qualified as a dentist in 2003. She has many years experience in General Dental Practice and Cosmetic Dental treatments. Her hobbies include knitting, dressmaking, playing video games with James and reading. James is an engineer with a passion for motorsport and a keen eye for detail. In his spare time he loves to take part in club level circuit races in his Clio Cup. We live locally with our two dogs, Dug and Rosie, so you may spot us out running, walking or cycling around the village and surrounding areas.

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More sponsors wanted for MotorFest

Bigger and better event is the aim

THE date for this year's Ormskirk MotorFest is set for Sunday, August 27 and organisers are appealing for more sponsors to come forward to help make the free family event even bigger and better.

Organised by Aintree Circuit Club and supported by West Lancs Borough Council, MotorFest has been a hugely popular occasion since it began in 2011, attracting around 30,000 visitors in 2015 and 2016.

Councillor John Hodson, whose cabinet responsibilities include the event, said: "The Ormskirk MotorFest has proved incredibly popular with people across the North West and we are appealing for sponsors to come forward and support it.

"If a number of businesses or individuals donate a small sum of money that can make a big difference to the event for this year and the future. Given the huge numbers of people the MotorFest attracts this is a fantastic opportunity for you to showcase your business or organisation."

The Concours de Elegance competition will once again be a major attraction at the MotorFest. This will see some truly wonderful vehicles line up for expert judges to cast their eye over them.

Halsall-based Carequick Ltd. Air Conditioning, which specialises in building services, air conditioning and mechanical maintenance, are sponsoring the Concours de Elegance for the third successive year.

This attraction will complement the superb town-centre displays which will feature a fantastic variety of classic and modern cars and motorbikes. Many vehicles will join in parade laps around the town centre to entertain the crowds.

Mike Ashcroft, Aintree Circuit Club chairman, said: "Put the date in your diary now for the 2017 Ormskirk MotorFest as it will be a fantastic event. If anyone wants to sponsor the event please contact the council or myself."

Anyone interested in sponsoring the event can contact Colin Brady, technical services manager, at colin.brady@westlancs.gov.uk or on 01695 585125.

Owners of classic, vintage and competition cars can now visit the event website www.ormskirkmotorfest.com for information on how to enter.

Cllr. Hodson added: "With so many visitors expected to come to MotorFest we would also hope that town-centre businesses will take advantage of this opportunity and open their premises to customers on the day."

Ramblers club seek new recruits

OFFICIALS of a local hiking and walking group are looking to recruit new members of all ages.

The Maghull Ramblers, who have been established more than 40 years, take part in a variety of different walks, ranging from a stroll along the canal to challenging mountain hikes.

They are particularly keen for families to join them during the Easter break for an easy 4.7-mile circular walk around Aughton and Clieves Hill. This will be held on Thursday, April 13, meeting at Aughton Village Hall at 1.30pm.

For more information, email Beth at baindow@yahoo.com or search for Maghull Ramblers on Facebook.

A family group enjoying a day out with Maghull Ramblers

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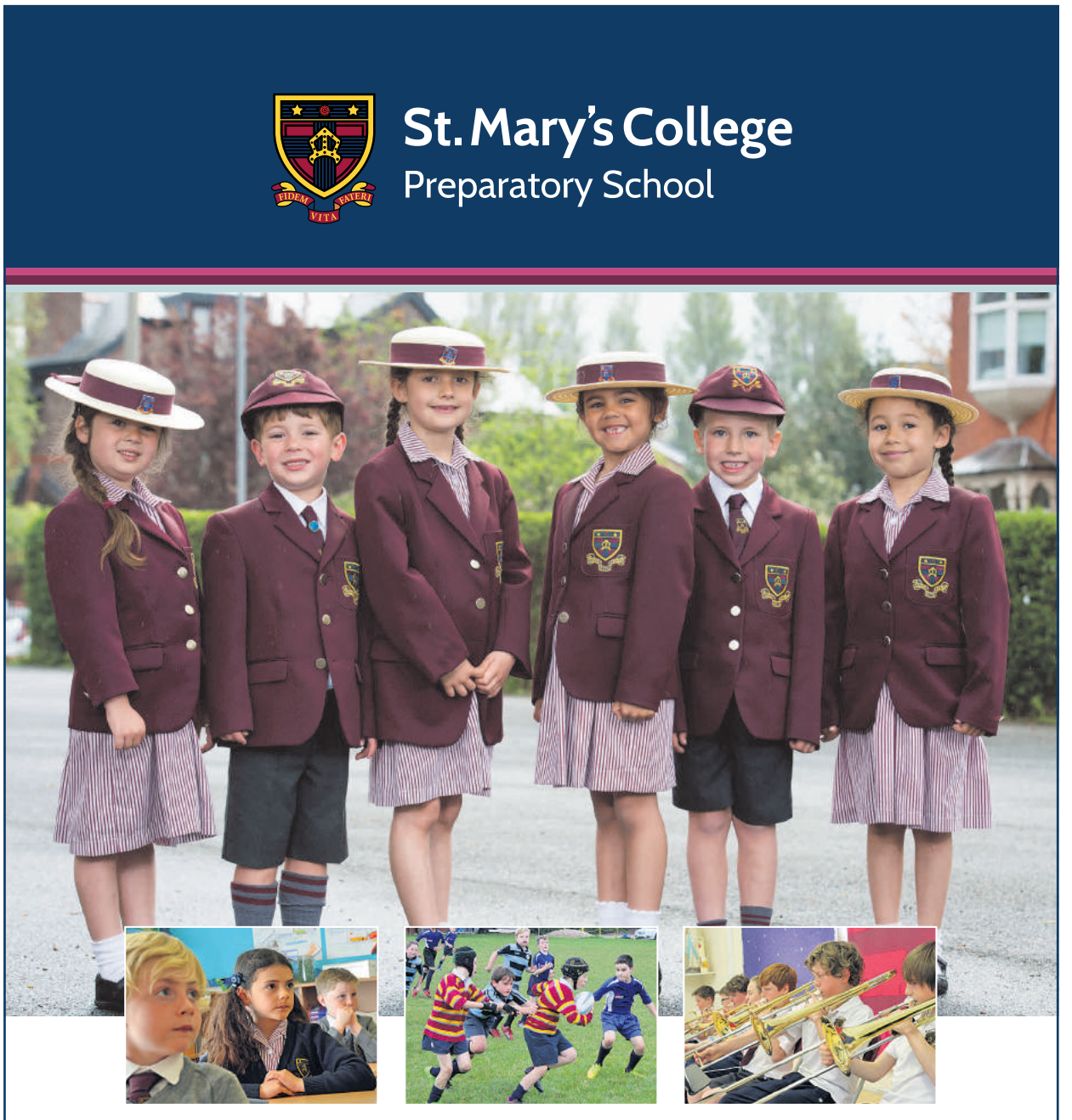
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Call for greater recognition of older people's role in society

LANCASHIRE County Council's champion for older people is urging organisations to recognise the important contribution that older people make to society.

The call by Skelmersdale Central County Councillor Terry Alderidge follows a report by the Government Office for Science, *Future of an Aging Population*, which looks in detail at the contribution older people make to various aspects of life today.

County Councillor Terry Alderidge

Speaking after the latest meeting of the Local Authority Elected Member Older People's Champions Network for the North West, Cllr. Aldridge said: "The make-up of the population is changing. People are living longer and there are now more people aged 60 and over, compared to the rest of the population.

"The contribution older people make in our society today is often overlooked. However, they bring in important skills and expertise to many areas.

"Research shows that they contribute around £9 billion to Britain's economy each year by providing childcare allowing parents of young children to work.

"Many more older people are also still in employment using their skills and abilities to support businesses, or work as volunteers supporting people in need of help.

"I and councillors from other authorities across the North West feel that that everyone should look again at the role older people play."

> "Many more older people are still in employment using their skills and abilities to support businesses, or work as volunteers supporting people in need of help."

The Local Authority Elected Members Older People's Champions Network is a cross-party group made up of councillors who are champions for older people from each of the county, district and unitary councils across the region.

Following discussions about the report, the group will now look in detail at actions that councils and other local organisations can take following on from the recommendations.

Cllr. Aldridge, who is chair of the network, added: "There are some areas we want to look at in more detail. We want to continue speaking to local MPs to encourage the government to introduce a Minister for Older People, so they have a voice for these issues at the very highest level.

"Other issues we're looking at include encouraging local employers to offer apprenticeships for people aged 50 and over and to recognise the wide range of skills and knowledge that older people from all walks of life could bring to their organisations.

"We also want to help to remove barriers to people learning in later life. We will continue our discussions and come up with some recommendations to help us move our plans forward in in the next few months."

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Oh happy Days!

Grant awards provide £11,000 boost for community arts project

MEMBERS of a community group which aims to make the arts accessible to all, including the most vulnerable in society, are celebrating an £11,000 boost.

The Divine Days Community Arts Project, which has bases in Burscough and Skelmersdale, was founded by Katie Whitehead, who runs therapeutic and educational programmes for individuals with additional needs, including creative dance and drama workshops.

Founder Katie Whitehead (left) with members of the Divine Dancers

The project has been given a grant of £10,000 towards activities and running costs from the Big Lottery Fund's Awards for All scheme, plus a Heath and Wellbeing grant of £1,000 from Lancashire County Council.

Edward McCarthy, communications and development co-ordinator for Divine Days, said: "We know from feedback that our dance and community sessions are popular and beneficial and with extra funding we can carry on this good work.

"Divine Days runs various creative workshops including music, dance, creative arts and relaxation.

"The Creative Dance groups for adults with additional needs perform in schools delivering interactive workshops to raise awareness and promote inclusion and acceptance. They also offer Creative Workshops to explore themes around health, well-being and self-expression.

"In addition they run a Community Connections project for the elderly to try activities they used to enjoy and sample new activities. These can improve their mental health and well-being by raising levels of confidence and self-esteem as well as providing a sense of belonging and community."

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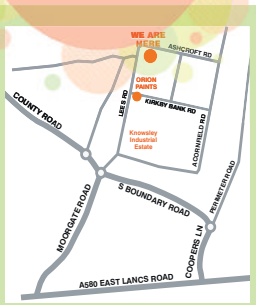

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Pet store's Easter bunny sales ban

A PET and pets supplies company retailer is refusing to sell bunnies this Easter in a bid to promote responsible animal ownership.

Pets at Home stores throughout the country, including at the Ringtail Retail Park in Burscough, will not be selling rabbits over the period from Good Friday to Easter Monday (April 14 to 17). Customer interest in rabbits increases at Easter due to the holiday's connection with bunnies but many of these pets can be abandoned once the novelty has worn off.

To ensure families understand the specific needs of rabbits, Pets at Home staff are instead hosting free rabbit workshops throughout the Easter weekend to help children understand the welfare needs of rabbits. This includes information about shelter, food and water and the right living environment, to help families to make an informed decision about the responsibilities of taking on an animal.

Peter Pritchard, chief executive at Pets at Home, said: "We pride ourselves on putting pets before profit so we've taken the decision not to sell rabbits during the upcoming Easter weekend. Our informative workshops help families understand what's involved in being a responsible rabbit owner."

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Seasons

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Mother's precious gift has always been as good as gold to me!

MY wrist watch is one of my most precious possessions.

My mother bought it for me as a birthday present a good many years ago and hopefully it will be my timepiece for the rest of my life.

So you can imagine my feelings just under a year ago when I found myself confined to a hospital bed - minus watch.

Since I had already discovered that some of my things (money, Zippo lighter and such) had been nicked while I was lying on a country path unconscious, I feared the worst.

Happily, after investigations, it turned up and we were reunited - and I reckon that made me feel better than any one other treatment I was receiving.

In fact, this was the second watch given to me as a birthday present by mum. When I was quite young - nine or so, I think - she presented me with a nifty *Orris* watch, which I wore with pride.

Then, one year in the mid-1950s we went on our first continental holiday. On the journey to London we travelled by the night sleeper train (those days there was such a thing from Liverpool) and I was thrilled by the sleeping cabin I shared with brother George.

Another high-spot was the locomotive - steam, of course - a great 'Pacific' beast named *Princess Helena Victoria*. I loved her, though I confess that at that time I had no idea who this particular princess might have been,

So, after a great holiday based in an Austrian village (where George and I spent a considerable time trying, without success, to dam the local river) we returned to spend a day and a night in London before catching the train back to Liverpool. I've no recollection of the loco for that trip, but it was a 'named train', the Red Rose.

At some point I decided to visit the toilet and, probably as much so I could use all the facilities available as for any sanitary consideration, I washed my hands.

I took off my watch and, yes, I left it in the toilet on the train and didn't realise until we were back on Merseyside.

The sensible thing to do was to tell mum or dad, who could at least have made an attempt at retrieving it. But being only 10 or so, I was terrified of retribution so I kept my nasty guilty secret to myself and started saving my pocket money with the stupid idea of buying an identical replacement.

Naturally I was found out, but not until several weeks had passed. In fact, I have no recollection at all of my parents' reaction, so it couldn't have been all that bad. And oddly, I cannot remember what kind of watch I used throughout my secondary school days.

My saviour, mum, eventually bought me a really decent watch in the late 1960s, and that I kept until a part broke which would have cost more to fix than the watch was worth. Hence, the Rotary watch I now, perhaps luckily, still have.

Actually, my ego received something of a boost when I discovered that a senior local councillor sported the same model - except that his had a gold case, as opposed to the gold-coloured case that I have!

They both looked, superficially at least, the same.

So all that glisters might not be gold, but my watch has always been as good as gold.

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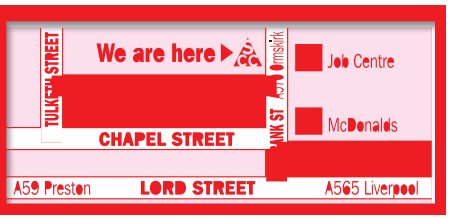

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2.6m of us are unfit!

Shock report prompts heart charity to launch campaign for healthier lifestyles

MORE than 2.6million people in the North West, almost half the adult population, are classified as physically inactive significantly increasing their risk of heart disease and premature death.

Dr Mike Knapton

That is according to a new report released by the British Heart Foundation (BHF) as it launches its MyMarathon challenge in a bid to boost the nation's physical activity.

The Physical Inactivity and Sedentary Behaviour Report represents the most up-to-date analysis of UK adults and their level of inactivity, one of the most significant national health crises threatening people's cardiovascular health today.

The report shows that more than 2.6million adults in the North West, and 20million across the UK as a whole, are failing to meet government guidelines for physical activity.

It also shows that physical inactivity is high among people who have gone on to suffer a cardiac event. On average eight in ten people in the North West (80%) who are referred for cardiac rehabilitation after suffering a heart attack or undergoing heart surgery, are failing to meet the government's physical activity recommendations.

Evidence is also growing that shows a sedentary lifestyle, regardless of how physically active you are, is associated with poor health. The BHF estimates that the average man in the UK spends a fifth of their lifetime sitting, the equivalent of 78 days each year. For women the figure is around 74 days a year.

The BHF is launching its MyMarathon challenge this year, urging people to kick-start a more active lifestyle to help improve their heart health. The challenge encourages people of all fitness levels to run the 26.2 miles in their own time over a month, from as little as a mile a day, with money raised going to help fund life-saving research to fight heart disease.

Dr Mike Knapton, associate medical director at the British Heart Foundation, said: "Levels of physical inactivity and sedentary behaviour in the UK remain stubbornly high, and combined these two risk factors present a substantial threat to our cardiovascular health and risk of early death.

"Our MyMarathon challenge is an ideal way for people of all fitness levels to increase their physical activity and improve their heart health. Every pound raised will help fund vital research in the fight against heart disease."

To find out more visit www.bhf.org.uk/mymarathon.

Search for first aid champions

DO you know someone who has saved a life or championed first aid in the community?

If so, it's time to nominate them for the St John Ambulance Everyday Heroes awards - but hurry, closing date is midnight on Sunday, April 9.

The awards celebrate inspiring stories of rescues across the country and residents in West Lancs are being urged to nominate someone they believe has gone the extra mile when it comes to first aid - whether they be friends, family members, colleagues or even strangers!

Shortlisted nominees will be invited to an awards ceremony in London in September.

Simon Dunn, regional director at St John Ambulance, said: "Each year, too many people die in situations where first aid could have given them a chance to live. By sharing triumphant stories, we can make as many people as possible aware of the importance of basic first aid and how it can, quite literally, be the difference between life and death."

For more information out about the award categories or to nominate someone, visit sja.org.uk/everydayheroes.

Mother's Day market raises funds for neurology unit

A WOMAN who underwent life-saving surgery to remove a brain tumour has raised £260 for the unit which treated her by hosting a themed market.

Lynsey Blane from Haskayne held her Mother's Day Market at The Civic in Southport Road, Ormskirk to raise money for The Walton Centre, the only specialist hospital trust in the UK that provides comprehensive neurology, neurosurgery, spinal and pain management services.

Mum-of-one Lynsey was diagnosed with a 5cm brain tumour in 2014, which had taken over her pituitary gland and spread around her optic nerves and carotid artery – the biggest blood vessel in the brain, neck and face.

She was given only a 50-50 chance of keeping her sight and warned she could die if she suffered a stroke during surgery.

In December that year she underwent a complicated nine-hour operation to remove the tumour at the Walton Centre. Although they removed most of the tumour, she has annual scans to check that what was left behind is not growing and suffers constant pain from severe nerve damage.

Lynsey said: "The market went really well, we had lots of customers, plenty of stalls and lots to occupy the kids. All of the stallholders and customers really enjoyed it. I know my care has cost far more than £260 but every little does help and we're made up with the amount we've raised."

Stallholders at Lynsey Blane's Mothers Day Market at The Civic

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3 Jun 18	Fjords, Mountains and Glaciers in June	8	£1,045pp
12 Jul 18	Charming Cities of France and Guernsey	8	£1,045pp
18 Jun 18	A Taste of Iceland	9	£1,139pp
8 Aug 18	Fjords, Mountains and Glaciers in August	9	£1,235pp
27 Oct 18	Islands and Landscapes of the Canaries	14	£1,425pp
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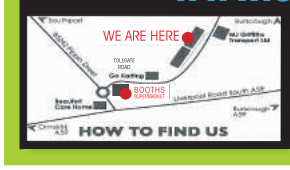

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Some of the winners at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's eighth annual staff awards ceremony

Awards ceremony for 'outstanding' health staff

HEALTHCARE staff from across Lancashire attended an awards ceremony which recognises outstanding care.

More than 350 employees gathered to recognise their achievements at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's eighth annual staff awards ceremony.

The event provides an opportunity for staff to cheer on colleagues nominated for one of 11 categories, including the People's Choice Award, which was nominated and voted for by members of the public.

Trust chief executive, Heather Tierney-Moore, said: "It was a fantastic night full of fun and enjoyed by everyone who attended. The event really highlights the dedication our staff exhibit every day in providing high-quality care to all of our service users, their families and carers.

"As in previous years, the standard of the nominations we received was very high and it proved to be a difficult task shortlisting in each of the categories.

"Everyone nominated should be extremely proud of their work and those who received an award this year are fine examples of just some of our staff who go above and beyond in their roles."

Winners received trophies and there was also recognition for those who just missed out on a winning spot but still deserved a special mention.

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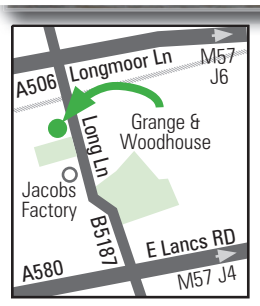

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Howzat! Win... an All Stars Cricket course for your youngster

DO you want to get your kids outdoors and more active this summer?

Well, All Stars Cricket is a brand-new programme from the England and Wales Cricket Board, which is aimed at girls and boys aged 5 to 8. It's a fun, first-time experience of cricket which develops your child's movement skills. They can learn catching, throwing, hitting a moving ball and teamwork – all whilst making new friends in a safe and inclusive environment.

All Stars Cricket starts in May 2017 and they have more than 1,500 centres across the country. It's an eight-week course and each session lasts one hour.

These sessions are packed with skills-based games that are run by trained and accredited activators and mum and dad are encouraged to take part too, so you can spend some time with the kids.

Once you are signed up to All Stars Cricket, your child will receive a personalised pack, which includes a backpack, cricket bat, water bottle, cap and shirt.

To find your nearest All Stars Cricket centre and easily register online, visit allstarscricket.co.uk

For your chance to win one of four places at All Stars Cricket this summer and a personalised cricket pack, simply answer the following question:

Q. Which season is most popular for playing cricket?
a) Summer
b) Autumn
c) Winter

Send your entries to: All Stars Cricket, The Champion, 166 Lord Street, Southport, PR9 0QA. Winners will be the senders of the first four correct entries drawn after the closing date of April 7, 2017.

The winners will be contacted in May by the England & Wales Cricket Board who will arrange prizes.

Prize terms & conditions:

Must be redeemed in 2017.

Winners will be contacted in May by the England & Wales Cricket Board.

Prize only for England & Wales.

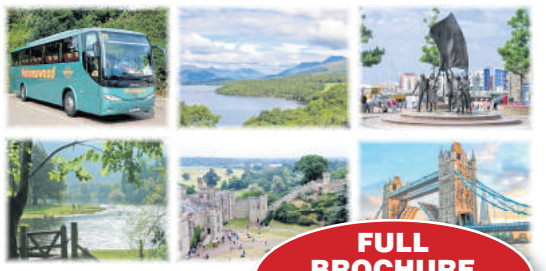
Cannot be redeemed for cash.

ECB will aim to provide a centre within 10 miles.

The prize consists of 1 x place at an All Stars Cricket centre including participant pack (supplied when course starts).

**Personalise pack includes: backpack, cricket bat, water bottle, cap and shirt.*

Holmeswood Holidays



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MON 17TH APRIL	Skipton for Market Day	£14.40	£12.70
SAT 22ND APRIL	Harrogate for Autumn Flower Show (Coach Only)	£16.95	£12.70
MON 1ST MAY	Llandundo Victorian Extravaganza	£17.25	£12.95
WED 3RD MAY	Bury's World Famous Market	£13.50	£10.00
MON 29TH MAY	Bowness & Ambleside	£15.90	£11.95
WED 31ST MAY	York and York Minster (Coach Only)	£18.00	£13.50
FRI 2ND JUNE	Bourton on the Water & Cotswolds	£20.50	£15.40
SAT 10TH JUNE	RHS Flower show at Chatsworth House (inc entry)	£46.90	£42.00
TUES 25TH JULY	Ambleside & Grasmere	£16.25	£12.20
THURS 27TH JULY	Llandundo & Conwy	£17.25	£12.95
MON 31ST JULY	Scarbrough & The East Yorkshire Coast	£19.90	£14.90

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7TH JULY	Llandundo (4 days)	£269
16TH JULY	Paignton (6 days)	£429
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13TH AUGUST	Downton Abbey & Stratford Upon Avon (3 days)	£199
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Search for Spectacle Wearer of the Year launched

Chance to win £10,000 prize and raise money for children's charity in annual Specsavers competition

Nadine Coyle is urging glasses wearers in West Lancashire to enter the Specsavers' 2017 Spectacle Wearer of the Year Awards

FORMER Girls Aloud star Nadine Coyle is calling on all glasses wearers in Ormskirk, and Skelmersdale to prove their 'specs appeal' and be in with a chance of winning £10,000 cash.

The multi platinum award-winning singer took part in a special photo shoot to launch Specsavers' annual search for the Spectacle Wearer of the Year 2017.

Proud specs wearers aged 16 and over from across the area are invited to enter the competition with finalists attending a star-studded awards ceremony in London and the overall winner claiming the coveted title and five-figure prize.

Nadine, who was crowned Best Specs Newcomer at the 2016 Spectacle Wearer of the Year Awards, said: "I realised I needed glasses to drive and read last year and I've been building up my specs wardrobe ever since.

"I've been experimenting with some fab new optical styles, such as cat's eyes and transparent frames. I can't believe what I've been missing for all these years!

"I was thrilled to win the newcomer award last year, so it's a real honour to help with the search to find the 2017 Spectacle Wearer of the Year."

Specsavers are asking all glasses wearers in the area to pucker up and share their best selfie.

Proud

And as well as being the perfect opportunity to showcase your personal specs style, each entry helps raise funds for anti-bullying charity, Kidscape.

Over the past six years the the competition has raised more than £400,000 for the charity.

Nadine Coyle added: 'I'm sproud to be involved with a campaign that raises funds for such a great cause. Kidscape does an incredible job to help stamp out bullying. As a mum myself, I understand how important it is for children to grow up without fearing bullies or abuse."

There are five age group categories for the competition - 16 to 24, 25 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 59 and over-60s - plus a Facebook favourite voted for by the public.

Winners in each category will receive a VIP makeover and have the chance to mingle with celebrities at the awards in London in October.

£1 will be donated to Kidscape for each entry made and money raised will help to support the charity in providing training, support and advice for children, parents, schools, and those who may be affected by cases of bullying and abuse in the UK.

To be in with a chance of scooping one of these fabulous prizes, glasses wearers in West Lancashire can enter the competition online at www.specsavers.co.uk/loveglassescomp.

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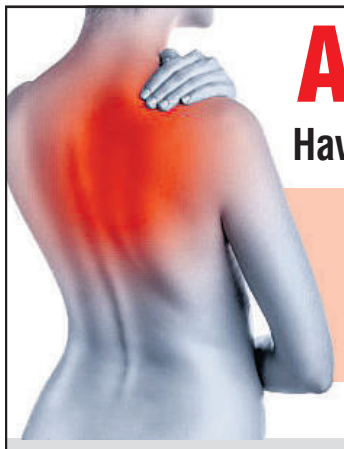

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Switch Island

£3m project to improve safety at Switch Island

HIGHWAYS England will spend £3 million on improving safety at Switch Island after it was revealed there have been 49 collisions at the busy junction in the last two years.

Report by **Tom Martin**

Construction work on the project at the junction, which is used by more than 90,000 vehicles every day, is expected to start next year.

The scheme is designed to improve the flow of traffic and enhance safety, following calls from motorists to make signs and lanes clearer.

New traffic lights will be installed at a height of over five metres - higher than HGVs and double-decker buses - so that drivers approaching the junction can clearly see when the lights are changing.

Other improvements will include changes to the road layout and lane markings, new barriers between carriageways, coloured, high-friction surfaces and better signs.

The major works is being funded by the government's £220 million congestion relief programme, which was announced by Transport Secretary Chris Grayling last month.

Bruce Parker, asset development manager at Highways England, said: "We're delighted we've been able to secure funding from the government for this scheme, and can now carry out the detailed design and planning work before construction starts next year.

"The improvements we're making at Switch Island will improve journeys and safety at the junction, benefitting the tens of thousands of drivers who travel through it every day."

Jerry McConkey, transportation and highway infrastructure service manager at Sefton Council, said: "We've been working with Highways England and Merseyside Police over the last 12 months to investigate the issues at Switch Island. It's great news that Highways England has secured this funding and we will continue working with them to improve the junction and make it safer for everyone using it."

And Tony Jones, Chief Inspector of Roads Policing at Merseyside Police, added: "We welcome any improvements to the road infrastructure which assists drivers and makes the network safer for drivers and pedestrians."

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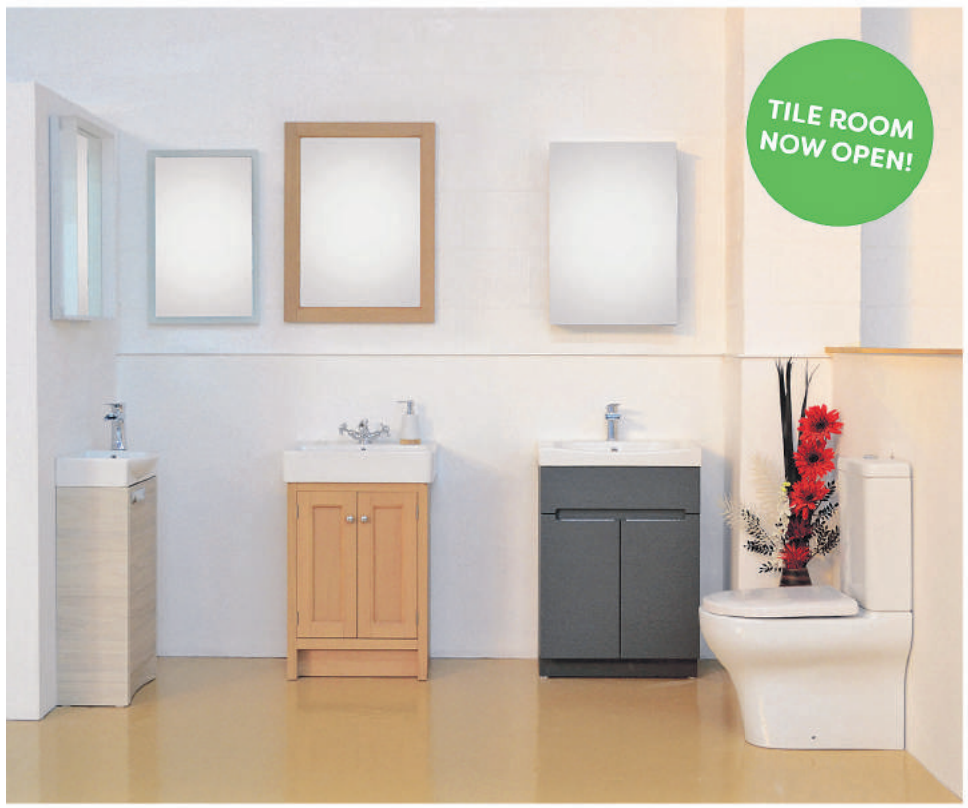

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Above: The Water Tower as it is now and (below) in 1987, before the tank was removed

Towering ambition!

Architect's high hopes of turning iconic structure into his dream home in the sky

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

THE architect whose ground-breaking plans to live on top of the iconic Water Tower in Ormskirk have been given the go-ahead, has shared how he will create the unique development.

Neil Dawson, who currently lives in Aintree with his wife and daughter, has already started work on the 160-year-old structure, which he plans to name Tinker Tower. And such is the scale of the development, he has already been approached by Channel 4 TV programme *Grand Designs* with an offer to star on the show!

The 44-year-old invited me to join him on a tour of the Tower Hill site, including a visit to the metal structure at the very top of the imposing Grade II listed structure to experience the stunning views of Ormkirk and the surrounding areas.

After clearing shrubbery and plants from the foot of the building, Neil's next exhausting task is to remove three layers of sandstone blocks from the top of the building which have been damaged by an iron ring-beam holding them in place rusting and expanding, damaging the stone.

After he has painstakingly mended the stones by hand and relaid the sandstone in situ, he will be starting on the three-storey development by installing the steel framework of the house, and using a ground-based crane to permanently install a smaller former Royal Navy crane onto the roof of the structure, which will stay in place until the home has been completed.

Some of his inventive, quirky plans for the structure include running a six-person lift up inside one of the legs of the tower into the three floors of the house, using another leg to run up the electrics, gas and water, with another leg turned into a quirky 'climbing wall' for his daughter and her friends!

The central leg of the tower, the only one to be built out of bricks instead of sandstone, still contains the original spiral staircase. This has been checked over by specialists, who said that it is still safe to be used. Neil will use this as a fire escape instead of installing a metal spiral staircase down another leg as he originally planned. This spiral staircase will be used to allow access between floors in the home, as well as the lift.

Neil is no stranger to eye-catching, contemporary designs. He is currently building a unique, six-bedroom bungalow conversion for a client in Burscough, which is designed to blend into the environment and look like a barn and silo while also using a personalised design to let a lot of light into the home.

He said: "My wife, Sue is from Aughton and we have a lot of friends and family here, so we are really excited to come and live here and return to her 'roots' as we already have a strong pull to the town – plus, we will have the best views around!

"I am so excited to start work on my own home, although I am expecting that it will be much more difficult than a 'normal' project due to the difficulties posed by working at height.

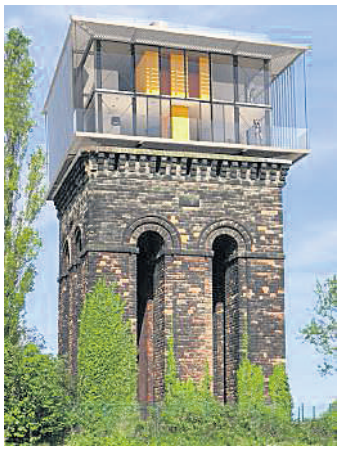
"I was so pleased that we could keep the stairs, as they will look beautiful once we have completed the house – although I'm sure we will be using the lift for everything, including sending the dog out for a wee!

"Before it was renamed Tower Hill in the 1920s, the road was called Tinker Lane, so we will be calling it Tinker Tower in homage to that!"

The tower was built in 1853 and was awarded listed status in 1976. There have been a number of previous planning applications submitted in an attempt to develop it into housing, but none have been successful.

The most recent, in 2007, proposed creating seven apartments by demolishing large sections of the tower but was rejected after meeting strong opposition from local residents and English Heritage.

Neil's plans resemble the original look of the tower, when it was topped by the water tank, and are the only plans that sought to keep the original structure intact.



Above: An artist's impression of how the development will look.

Below: Neil Dawson at the top of the original spiral staircase

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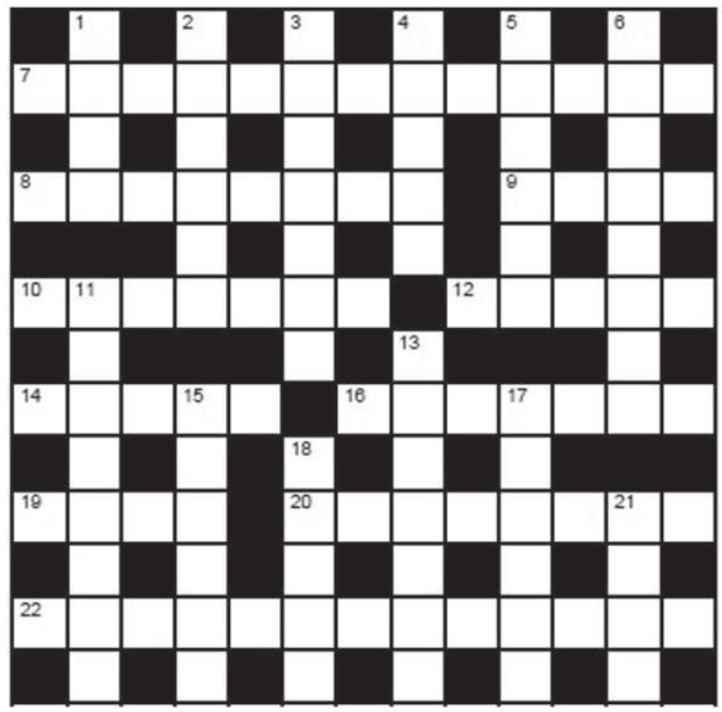

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7 Liaise. 8 Worthy. 9 Whet. 10 Trainers. 11 Spangle. 13 Sushi. 15 Spite. 17 Million. 20 Probable. 21 Mode. 22 Disown. 23 Allege.

Down: 1 Mishap. 2 Fist. 3 Gentile. 4 Tweak. 5 Tranquil. 6 Church. 12 Notebook. 14 Liberal. 16 Permit. 18 Old age. 19 Ebony. 21 Milk.

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ACROSS

7. From or within a large organisation (13)
8. Trivial sum, second lowest UK coin denomination (8)
9. Stupid person or armed thug in USA (4)
10. Presiding officer of House of Commons (7)
12. Colourless, volatile liquid used as an anaesthetic and solvent (5)
14. Freed from moisture (5)
16. Lamp with transparent case protecting the flame (7)
19. Tailless, short-bodied amphibian with long hind legs (4)
20. Largest of the United Arab Emirates (3, 5)
22. Gossiped (6-7)

DOWN

1. Nibble something persistently (4)
2. Imaginary place or state where everything is perfect (6)
3. Shocked, astounded (7)
4. Semi-aquatic fish-eating mammal (5)
5. Searched for (6)
6. Person who deliberately destroys or wrecks something (8)
11. Painting of a person usually depicting only the face or head and shoulders (8)
13. Not man-made (7)
15. Half of a quarter (6)
17. Largest island in French Polynesia (6)
18. A man's personal male attendant (5)
21. Coffin stand (4)

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Number of months	**60**	60	60
Monthly payments	**£31.80**	£33.29	£35.61
Total amount repaid	**£1,908.00**	£1,997.40	£2,136.60

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Send your completed entry form to:

GRAND NATIONAL COMPETITION, Champion Newspapers, Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport, PR9 0QA.

To arrive no later than: **12 noon Wednesday 12th April 2017**

Entries must be received before 12 noon on Wednesday 12th April 2017. Only original entry forms are valid; photocopies etc. are NOT acceptable. The first correct entry pulled out of the mailbag will receive the £30 cash prize and be notified by telephone. Normal Champion rules apply (visit **www.champnews.com/comprules**). No correspondence entered into and the editor's decision is final. Randox Health have no affiliation whatsoever with this competition. All trade marks acknowledged as being the property of their respective owners.

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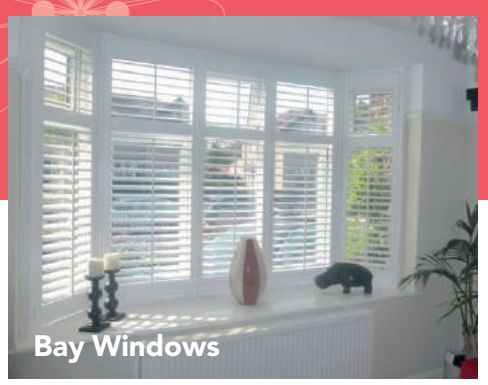
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At Hurlston Hall; 12.30 for 1pm (Vegetarian options)
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April 26th FAMILY HISTORY TALK
Ms Susan Atkins "The 1939 Registers"
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May 12th 1ST WW TALK
by Mr Richard Houghton "Battles of Arras & Messines"
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Champion ENTERTAINMENT

Totally Tina is coming to Southport theatre

Concert aims to be simply the best

TINA Turner is a phenomenon, having won eight Grammys, sold over 200 million albums and more concert tickets than any other artist in a career lasting four decades.

Experience the thrill of a Tina Turner concert at Southport Theatre this Friday (April 7) as Totally Tina recreates the look, sound and feel of Tina at her best.

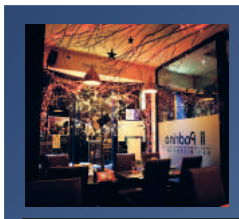
Totally Tina is an Internationally-acclaimed award-winning tribute revue show to the Queen of Rock. The show re-creates the spectacle and energy of Tina Turner's explosive live shows with a six-piece live band, four stunning dancers and Justine Riddoch's incredible impersonation of the Queen of Rock and Soul.

Justine is a talented performer: her appearance as Anastacia on the live final of ITV's Stars In Their Eyes in 2002 opened the door to the tribute market and her performance as Tina Turner is 'simply the best'!

She is the UK's Official No.1 Tribute to Tina Turner, as voted for by the Agents Association of Great Britain at the 2016 National Tribute Music Awards.

The show includes authentic dance routines and stunning hand-made replica costumes, as well as a host of instantly recognisable songs. Totally Tina takes the audience from the early days with Ike, and songs like River Deep, Mountain High and Proud Mary, all the way through to Tina's solo comeback in the '80s with her incredible cover of the Al Green classic, Let's Stay Together, to her massive solo hits like Steamy Windows, Private Dancer and What's Love Got To Do With It.

Totally Tina is at Southport Theatre at 7.30pm. For more information or to book tickets call 0844 871 3021 or visit www.atgtickets.com/southport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Easter Bank Holiday DEADLINES

The deadline for Private Advertisers for publication on
Wednesday 19th April
is as follows:
4pm - Thursday 13th April

The winner of Dinner for Two, compliments of **Champion Newspapers** and the **ChampLocal App** is
Hannah Fraser
Congratulations!
The winner has been notified.
For more information about the app visit www.champlocal.com or download it for FREE from your favourite app store.

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SCARBOROUGH ESPLANADE HOTEL 17 April 5 Days DBB £259
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★Seafront hotel close to North Pier★
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Friday: 2, 9, 16 23, 30 Jun; 7, 14, 21, 28 Jul; 4, 11, 18, 25 Aug; 1, 8, 22, 29 Sep — £89.95
Saturday: 13, 20, 27 May; 3, 10, 17, 24 Jun; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Jul; 5, 12, 19, 26 Aug — £99.95
Sunday: 21, 28 May; 4, 11, 18, 25 Jun; 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Jul; 6, 13, 20, 27 Aug — £79.95

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In an enviable position on the centre of Llandudno's level promenade. Seafront. Lift. Car Park. Entertainment. Indoor Pool.
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★3 Nights Arrive Friday: £129.95 — Good Fri 14 Apr Victorian Extravaganza; Bank Hol 28 Apr
★4 Nights Arrive Monday: £149.95 from — 10, 24 Apr; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May; 5, 12, 19, 26 Jun; 3, 10, 17, 24 Jul
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★3 Nights Arrive Friday: from £99.95 — Good Fri 14 Apr Victorian Extravaganza; Bank Hol 28 Apr
★4 Nights Arrive Monday: from £119.95 — 10, 17, 24 Apr; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May; 5, 12, 19, 26 Jun; 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Jul

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Palace Hotel Buxton
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★1 Night Arrive Sunday: £45 — 9, 23 Apr; 7, 14, 21, 28 May; 3, 10, 17, 24 Sep
★2 Nights Arrive Monday: from £79.95 — 10, 17, 24 Apr; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May; 12, 19, 26 Jun

Headway Hotel Morecambe
★Seafront hotel, stunning views★
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★2 Nights Arrive Friday: from £79.95 — 7, 21 Apr; 9, 16, 23 Jun; 5, 12, 19 May
★4 Nights Arrive Monday: from £149.95 — 10, 17, 24 Apr; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May; 5, 12, 19, 26 Jun

Glen Usk Hotel Llandrindod Wells
★Victorian spa town in heart of Wales★
• Lift • Car Park • Town Centre
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★4 Nights Arrive Monday: from £129.95 — 10, 17, 24 Apr; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 May; 5, 12, 19, 26 Jun

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★17th Century former coaching inn★
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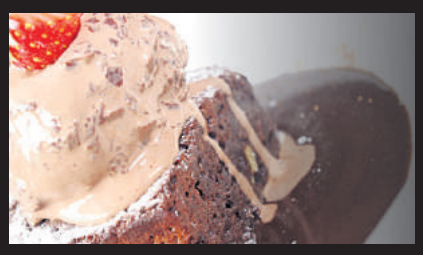
★3 Nights Arrive Friday: £109 — 7, 14, 21, 28 Apr; 5, 12 May
★4 Nights Arrive Monday: £159 — 10, 17, 24 Apr; 1, 8, 15 May

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

GOOD FRIDAY 14th APRIL
Come & indulge your senses with Chef's Good Friday Fish menu All for only £9.99 served lunch time and evening

EASTER SUNDAY TREAT 16th APRIL



Come and enjoy a delicious family Sunday lunch 2-course traditional lunch Only £14.99
Why not indulge with one of Chef's homemade dessert!

EASTER MONDAY 17th APRIL
We are open 12-2.30pm And 5-9pm on Easter Monday
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2-course evening table d'hote menu £16.99

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CD PLAYER Aiwa CD Player complete with remote control XC300. Black. Exc. condition. £40 01704 893484

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HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

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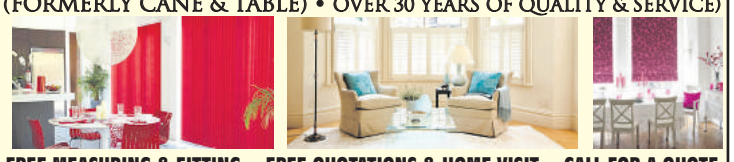

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MISC

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ACTUAL SALARY	£15,590 - £17,715
REQUIRED	As soon as possible
CONTRACT	Permanent
HOURS	37 hours per week, Term Time plus 2 weeks

8.15am – 4.45pm Monday – Thursday
8.15am – 3.00pm Friday
(A degree of flexibility in working hours may occasionally be required by negotiation between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.)

Governors are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic Technician to provide day to day support in and out of class for the Engineering & Technology departments.

Application packs are available from our website **www.olqp.org.uk** or from the HR Manager, Mrs N Barber, or email **n.barber@olqp.lancs.sch.uk.**

Closing date for applications:
Wednesday 19th April 2017 at 12.00 noon
Interviews: TBA

"In Christ We Grow"

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure and satisfactory medical clearance.

RTA Trainee Claims Handler

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We are a well-established Personal Injury Firm who are seeking fresh, enthusiastic graduates on a fixed term contract

No previous experience is necessary as full training and support will be given. You will be expected to manage a caseload to a high level of customer service and deal with all aspects of RTA Portal personal Injury claims from the outset to conclusion. We offer the chance to develop and progress your legal career, together with a competitive salary.

Please submit your c.v. for the attention of Mrs Gill Cory to
info@jcasolicitors.co.uk
If you do not hear from us within 10 days,
please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

An opportunity has arisen to join our growing team

Full Time Senior Support Worker

(39hrs) In the Skelmersdale/Ormskirk area
Pay scale £9.30-£10.01 per hour

You will be an experienced worker in the learning disability sector who has provided supervision/support to other workers or who has taken additional duties as a support worker.
It is essential that you are able to drive.

Call 01257 241899 or visit our website www.linkability.org.uk to apply on line or to request an application pack.

We also have vacancies in our growing team for COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS : see or website for details

Closing date 21/4/17

Ormskirk Asmall Primary School
Tennyson Drive, Ormskirk L39 3PJ

Nursery senior leader

£9.70 an hour, pro-rata. **Ref: 161219A**

Working approximately 38.25 hours a week during term-time. Due to the restructure of the nursery leadership team, a position has become available for a senior leader. We are an outstanding nursery who are continually looking for ways to maintain our practice.
Essential: You must have NVQ Level 3 or equivalent and current and up to date knowledge of the EYFS.

After school club leader

£9 an hour, pro-rata. **Ref: 161217A**

15 hours a week, daily position, to work during term-time. Required May 2017. Due to the popular demand for after school club places at Asmall Primary School, we now require an enthusiastic and reliable person to lead our after school club. This is a variable hours contract and will be reviewed annually.
Essential: You must have NVQ Level 2 or equivalent and experience of working with primary school aged children.

Nursery practitioner x3

£8.35 an hour, pro-rata. **Ref: 161220A**

Required as soon as possible until 31 August 2018, to work during term-time. Asmall Nursery requires two nursery practitioners to cover maternity leave. We are an outstanding nursery who are continually looking for ways to maintain our outstanding practice. The two positions are part-time, Monday to Friday.
Position one - approximately 26.25 hours a week.
Position two - approximately 28.5 hours a week.
Essential: You must have NVQ Level 2 or equivalent and current and up to date working knowledge of the EYFS, experience of working as part of a team and be reliable and flexible.

The posts you are applying for are covered by the Rehabilitation of Offenders (Exceptions) Act 1975. If successful you will be required to apply to the Disclosure and Barring Service for a 'disclosure'.
Informal discussion: Please contact the school.

Application forms: Return completed application forms to: admin@asmall.lancs.sch.uk.
Closing date: 18 April 2017 at 12pm.

Some schools are excluded as commitment is on an individual basis.

Lancashire County Council

Apply online at: **www.lancashire.gov.uk/vacancies**

Easter Bank Holiday DEADLINES

The deadline for Private Advertisers for publication on **Wednesday 19th April** is as follows:

Telephone Bookings 4pm - Thurs 13th April

Internet Bookings Midnight - Mon 17th April

Visit **www.champnews.com** for further details

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MOTHER AND BABY

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SPORTS EQUIPMENT

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NEW TAYLOR made 6 iron never been used left handed bargain £20 01515319425/ 07773242918

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REMY-MARTIN Wooden Barrel Game. On E-bay at £100. Bargain at £65 01704 875561

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HOBBY HORSE lovely horse on wooden pole immaculate condition £5 01704 875299

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DEATHS

TULLOCH MAY

On 1st April 2017

Peacefully in hospital with her family by her bedside. Aged 85 years.

Beloved Wife of the late Alex, loving Daughter of the late Alice Howard, much loved Mum of Lynn, Ian, Neil and Lydia, dear Mother-in-law of Susan, Vicky and Steve, dearly loved Nanna of Stuart, Matthew, Jack, Katy, Kate and Harry, and Great Nanna of Honesty, Briar-Lily and Jude. May will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service will take place at St. Johns Church Crossens on Tuesday 11th April at 11.15am followed by the Committal at Southport Crematorium. Flowers or donations if so desired for United Kingdom Sepsis Trust Ltd. Flowers, donations and further enquiries to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG. Tel: 01704 214118.

TUNKS BRENDA

28th March 2017
Peacefully in Aisley Lodge Rufford aged 87 years

Dear Wife of the late Harold. Jacqui Schmidt and Vicky Andrews will sadly miss their great friend Brenda. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Friday 21st April 2017 at 4.00pm. All enquiries please to Cookson Tyrer, Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough L40 5UU. Tel: 01704 897770

WALSH MARJORIE VERONICA (Nee Jackson)

30th March 2017
Peacefully at Woodlands Hospice with her family by her side aged 85 years

Beloved Wife of Chris. Dearly loved Mum of Julie, Chris, Cath, Marj, Jen and Liz. Much loved Mother-In-Law and Sister. Devoted Nan to all her Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren. Sadly missed by all who knew her. Funeral Mass at St George's Church, Station Road, Maghull on Tuesday April 11th 2017 at 11:00 am followed by burial at Thornton Garden Of Rest. Flowers or donations for Woodlands Hospice c/o Graham J. Clegg, Independent Funeral Service, 7 Dover Road, Maghull. L31 5JB. Telephone: 0151 520 3330 or at www.cleggfunerals.co.uk

DEATHS

GREGSON EDWARD NEIL 'TEDDY'

On 28th March 2017 suddenly but peacefully at home. Aged 76 years.

Beloved Husband of Vera, loving Dad and best friend of Neil, Mark and Tina, dear Father-in-law of Andrew, Brother of Richard, John and the late Janet, Brother-in-law of Appy, much loved Granddad of Jade, Mellisa, Matthew and Aron, and Great Granddad of Harley and Ivy. Teddy will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. The family would like to thank family doctors Dr. D Finn and Dr. S Woodcock and doctors and nursing staff of the medical oncology day ward at Southport Hospital for their every care and attention. Funeral Service will take place at Lakeside Church, Southport on Monday 10th April at 10.45am followed by the Committal at West Lancashire Crematorium. Family flowers only by request, donations if so desired for Bloodwise. Donations and further enquiries to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport PR9 9TG Tel: 01704 214118.

EDWARDS CAROLE LINDA Nee Heyes

Was tragically lost on the 2nd of April at the age of 51 while pursuing her passion for scuba diving in the Farne Islands

Dearly loved Mother of William and Rosie. Daughter of Violet and late Richard. Sister of Janet. Partner of Neil with children James and Helena. Aunty of James and Bianca.

A lovely, lovely lady that will be missed by all that knew her.

Goodbye flower X

MORRIS BARBARA

27th March 2017
Peacefully at Rose Lodge Aged 82 years of Ormskirk

The dearly loved Wife of the late Ron, loving Mum of Derrick (deceased). Malcolm and Gary, dear Mother in law of Lynne and Carol, devoted Nanna of Martyn, Stuart and Kirsty, Great Nan to Riley, much loved Sister to Dorothy and Eric and loving Auntie to Diane and Amy. Funeral Service at Southport Crematorium on Wednesday 5th April 2017 at 12.40pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Alzheimer's Society. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman of H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Ormskirk, Skelmersdale & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122 / 720012

Announcements

DEATHS

RIBBENS FREDA

30th March 2017

Died suddenly at home after a short illness, aged 80 years

Beloved Wife of George.

All enquiries to Hunters Funeral Directors, 128b Burscough Street, Ormskirk. Tel 01695 572997.

KING JAMES JOSEPH (JIM)

31st March 2017
Aged 82 years
Peacefully at Southport Hospital.

Loving Husband to Lena. Devoted Dad to Barry, reunited with his beloved Sons James and Michael. Sadly missed by his loving Wife, Son, Daughter in law Michelle and Granddaughters Maisie and Elisha. Funeral Service to be held on Monday 10th April at West Lancashire Crematorium at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please but if desired donations received to Cancer Research UK. All enquiries to Hunters Funeral Directors, 128B Burscough Street, Ormskirk. Tel: 01695 572997

TENNISON JOAN

Passed away on 24th March 2017 aged 75 years of Burscough

Dearly Loved Mum of Caron and Paul, and Mother-in-law of Dawn. Much Loved Grandma of Abbey and Ellen. Loved and missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service took place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Monday 3rd April. There were family flowers only by request, but donations are being gratefully received in memory of Joan for the RSPCA. Donations and further enquires please to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 22a Liverpool Road North, Burscough. Tele. 01704 891555.

DEATHS

DUNN JANET VERONICA

31st March 2017
Passed away peacefully in hospital aged 75 years of Burscough

Dearly loved partner to Cyril, much loved Mum of Steven & Sharon and a loving Nannie of all her Grandchildren. Family flowers only please donations if so desired for North West Cancer Research. For Funeral arrangements please contact Sally Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors 22a Liverpool Road North, Burscough, L40 5TP. Tel: 01704 891 555

DUNCANSON MABEL

25th March 2017
Suddenly at home aged 84 years

Much loved Mum of Valerie, Anne and Stephen. Devoted Nan to Mark, Andrew and his wife Iva, Jonathan, Gareth and Lisa. Mabel will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service will take place at Mawdesley Methodist Church on Thursday 6th April 2017 at 12 noon followed by interment at Mawdesley St Peter's at 12.45pm. Family flowers only by request please, but the family are gratefully receiving donations for Macmillan Cancer Support. Further enquiries please to Moisters Funeralcare, 8 Station Road, Ainsdale, Southport PR8 3HS. Tel: 01704 575282.

LOWDEN NIGEL DOUGLAS

30th March 2017

Peacefully at Woodlands Hospice, age 66 years

Beloved Husband of Patricia, much loved Dad of Samantha. Dear Son of Christine. Nigel will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Service and Cremation at Thornton Crematorium on Monday 10th April at 2pm. No flowers please but if desired donations to Cancer Research UK c/o H Leslie Humphreys, 69 Liverpool Road, Crosby L23 5SE. Tel 0151 924 4805.

DEATHS

JONES THOMAS M (TOMMY)

27th March 2017

Father of Thomas and Father in law of Bev. Grandad of Katie, Amy, Sean and Taylor. It was a sad day when you passed, the love in our hearts will always be there for you. You will be sadly missed. Goodnight and sleep tight Dad, love you always Thomas, Bev, Katie, Amy Sean and Taylor XXXXXX

JONES THOMAS M (Tommy)

27th March 2017

Father of Shirley and Father-In-Law of Ian, Grandad of Anthony, Liam, Dylan and Rachel. Dad can't believe you have gone, you will always be in our hearts and we will never forget you. XX Grandad who are we going to turn to when Mum's being a crank, we will miss you forever and always, your loving Grandchildren XXXX

JONES THOMAS M (Tommy)

27th March 2017
Peacefully at home Aged 66 years

Loving Husband of Betty, devoted Dad of Michaela, Thomas, Shirley, Jennifer, Robert and Christopher, cherished Grandad and Great-Grandad of all his Grandchildren, will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service and Interment will take place at St. Michaels Dalton on Friday 7th April at 9.45am, family flowers only please by request. All enquiries Margaret Whitelam, Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

Announcements

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IN MEMORIAM

MONAGHAN BERNIE

2nd June 1952 -
6th April 2013

There are so many thoughts of you on this special day, and so many memories that will never fade away. They say that time's a healer but I am not so sure, for every time I think of you, I miss you even more.

Loved always, Jude
xxxx

DUFF COLIN

5th April 2007

10 years have passed since you were taken away from us, no words can say how much we love and miss you every day.

Love from Mum, Kevin, Claire, Jake, Lewis & Val
xxx

COX DEBBIE

In Memory

11/04/16

A little tribute, small and tender, just to say we still remember.

Love, all the family

ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TO ROY AND NORMA BOLTON

8th April 2017

With love from Nicky, Howard, Aaron, Joy and Grandchildren Daniel & Lucy

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ENSOR JEAN

The family of the late Jean Ensor wish to thank all her friends for their kind expressions of sympathy received during the family's recent sad bereavement, and for the many generous donations to the British Red Cross Society.

A very special thank you to the Reverend Sylvia Jacquest for her most heartfelt and fitting tribute to Jean, also to the Reverend Michael Tindsley for a beautiful service, and to Lisa at MLS Funeral Directors for all her kind help, guidance and support.

TREASURE FRANK

The Family of the late Frank Treasure would like to express their heartfelt thanks to Family and Friends, for all the messages of condolence, sympathy cards and donations for The Royal Chelsea Hospital Appeal received during their recent sad loss. Special thanks to the wonderful nursing staff at the Royal Chelsea Hospital for all their care and attention given, The Korean Veterans Association Members, and The Northumberland Fusiliers. Thanks also to Rev. Ross Moughtin and Rev. Steven Brookes for their kind words of comfort, and to MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements.

PRAYERS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published.

C.R.D

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Friday 31st March 2017

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£250.....Mrs Roderick, Crosby
£100.....Miss Carey, Orrell Park
Plus 15 other winners of £10 each

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PUBLIC NOTICES

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(WEST LANCASHIRE SPRING TRIATHLON EVENT, WESTHEAD, LATHOM, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council ("The County Council") have made an Order under Section 16A of the **Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle or cycle (apart from those participating in the event) from proceeding over the following lengths of highway, in the Borough of West Lancashire, as set out below;

i. School Lane, from its junction with Vicarage Lane to its junction with Whiteley's Lane,
ii. Ruff Lane, from its junction with Vicarage Lane to its junction with Scarth Hill Lane,
iii. Whiteley's Lane from its junction with Scarth Hill Lane to its junction with A577 Wigan Road (Lathom),
iv. Vicarage Lane in a North East and Easterly direction from its junction with Ruff Lane to its junction with School Lane,
v. Ruff Lane in a South Easterly direction from its junction with Beech Meadow to its junction with Vicarage Lane

An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closures is as follows;

i. Ruff Lane - A570 Knowsley Road – A577 Wigan Road – A577 Cross Hall Brow – A577 Wigan Road and vice versa
ii. Ruff Lane - A570 Knowsley Road – A577 Wigan Road – A577 Cross Hall Brow – School Lane – Vicarage Lane
iii. A577 Wigan Road – A577 Cross Hall Brow – A577 Wigan Road A570 St Helens Road – Scarth Hill Lane and vice versa

Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times, vehicular access will be maintained whenever and wherever possible.
The Police, Fire and Ambulance Services have been informed.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable the safe holding of the West Lancashire Spring Triathlon event 2017.
The prohibitions will be operative from, 0700 hours until 1230 hours on Sunday 9th April 2017, or sooner if the event finishes earlier
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/7226/arh]

www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(INTAKE LANE, BICKERSTAFFE, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Intake Lane, Bickerstaffe from Hall Lane to St Helens Boundary.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0600 hours until 1800 hours on Monday 24th April 2017 to Friday 19th May 2017 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Church Road – A506 Liverpool Road – A570 Liverpool Road – Rainford Road and vice versa. The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow carriageway surface dressing works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made: Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/7102/WH]

www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(BANNISTER LANE, WRIGHTINGTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Bannister Lane, Wrightington from Bentley Lane to Whittle Lane.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0600 hours until 1700 hours on Monday 10th April 2017 to Friday 5th May 2017 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Whittle Lane – Highmoor Lane – Robin Hood Lane – Hall Lane – Sparrow Lane – Parbold Hill – Lancaster Lane – Chorley Road and vice versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow Surface dressing works to be carried out. Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/7095/WH]

www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(TOOTLE LANE, RUFFORD, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Tootle Lane, Rufford from its junction with Mere Lane, to its junction with Brick Kiln Lane in the Borough of West Lancashire.
2. The prohibition will be operative from 0800 hours on Monday 3rd April 2017 until 1700 hours on Friday 7th April 2017 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Mere Lane – Sandy Way – B5246 Holmeswood Road – Cousins Lane and vice versa
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow new electrical cabling works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/6558/arh]

www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(GREEN LANE, BISPHAM, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Green Lane, Bispham from Hall Lane to Malt Kiln Lane.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0600 hours to 1800 hours on Monday 10th April 2017 until Friday 5th May 2017 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Maltkiln Lane – Chorley Road – Robin Lane – Hall Lane.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow carriageway surface dressing works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/7094/WH]

www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(BRICK KILN LANE, RUFFORD, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Brick Kiln Lane, Rufford from Holmeswood Road to Tootle Lane.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0600 hours until 1800 hours on Monday 10th April 2017 until Friday 5th May 2017 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Holmeswood Road – Cousins Lane and vice versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow carriageway patching works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/7090/WH]

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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(NARROW LANE, HALSALL, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Narrow Lane, Halsall from Asmall Lane to Halsall Lane.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0600 hours until 1800 hours on Monday 24th April 2017 to Friday 19th May 2017 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Narrow Lane – Cut Lane – Asmall Lane and vice versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow carriageway patching works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/7108/WH]

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West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING

Application No: 2017/0225/FUL Single storey extension to rear elevation at 4 Mill Hey Lane, Rufford.
Application No: 2017/0275/FUL Installation of domestic lift within a common entrance area to serve four approved flats and fitting of external letter plates at West Wing, Lathom House, Lathom Park, Lathom.
Application No: 2017/0281/LBC Listed Building Consent - Installation of domestic lift within a common entrance area to serve 4 flats and fitting of external letter plates at Lathom House, Lathom Park, Lathom.
Application No: 2017/0286/FUL New front stone boundary wall and associated gates and gate pillars at Stannanought Farm, Elmers Green Lane, Skelmersdale.
Application No: 2017/0305/FUL Conversion of upper floors to student accommodation at 15 Burscough Street, Ormskirk.
Application No: 2017/0323/FUL Extensions and alterations to existing student HMO accommodation, first and second floor and loft to create 6no bedrooms and 6no studio bedrooms at 23A Church Street, Ormskirk.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Director of Development and Regeneration — Dated: 5th April 2017 PDNOT943

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(SCARTH HILL LANE, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) (No 2) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Scarth Hill Lane, Ormskirk from its junction with Whiteleys Lane to a point outside the property known as Delph House in the Borough of West Lancashire.
2. The prohibition will be operative from 0800 hours until 1700 hours on Tuesday 18th April 2017 or, until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Scarth Hill Lane – Ruff Lane – A570 Knowsley Road – A570 St Helens Road and vice versa
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow essential overhead telecommunications maintenance works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/17/08/6836/arh]

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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(HIGHER LANE, PARBOLD, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Higher Lane, Parbold from Alder Lane to Beacon Lane.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0600 hours until 1800 hours on Tuesday 18th April 2017 until Friday 12th May 2017 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Ash Brow – Cobbs Brow Lane – Cobbs Clough Road – Glenburn Road – Houghtons Road – Stannought Road – Windmill Road – Ormskirk Road – Mill Lane – Beacon Lane.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow carriageway surface dressing patching works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White,
Network Regulation Manager,
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701
[Ref: HRiT/7096/WH]

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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(BROOKFIELD LANE, AUGHTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Brookfield Lane, Aughton from the Junction of Butchers Lane to a point 35 metres north of property No 100 Brookfield Lane.
2. The prohibition will be operative from 0900 hours on Tuesday 18th April 2017 until 1700 hours on Friday 26th May 2017 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Butchers Lane – Springfield Road – Smithy Lane –Brookfield Lane and vice versa.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow utilities works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/7349/WH]

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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(DUNGEON LANE, PARBOLD, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle or cycle to proceed over that length of Dungeon Lane, Parbold from Dungeon Lane to its Junction with Higher Lane.
2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0900 hours until 1600 hours on Tuesday 11th April 2017 until Thursday 13th April 2017 or until completion of the works within this period.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Higher Lane – Lees Lane
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow Utilities works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White,
Network Regulation Manager,
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701
[Ref: HRiT/6962/WH]

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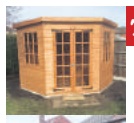

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Classic car nuts like me would probably end up with a Triumph TR4 or Jaguar Mk2 for that sort of money.

Or you can follow Carly Mackie's lead and blow the lot on roughly a year's worth of parking for the car you already have.

That's something in the region of £65 a day for a car that's not even moving.

The punishment administered by a court up in Dundee this week is widely being described as Britain's biggest ever parking penalty – but it does (in Scotland at least) scotch the myth that parking tickets issued by private companies on private land are legally unenforceable.

All it'll take is one court case of a similar nature either here in England or over in Wales to make the precedent Britain-wide, and I don't think any of us want to test it out.

Yet I think this is no bad thing.

Too many people on the internet have been perpetuating the idea you should refuse to pay these private penalties under any circumstances, but I'd much rather take the precedent of a court ruling over some self-appointed internet legal eagle and – while it's unfortunate for Ms Mackie – this does at least clear things up. It also highlights how bad the situation in most town centres has ended up if people are prepared to run this parking gauntlet.

On a busy day Southport and Ormskirk are particularly tricky to find spaces in and I'll inevitably end up circulating like an automotive vulture, waiting to swoop down the instant someone's Fiesta backs out and frees up a space. Skelmersdale does rather better, with its swish multi-storey at the Concourse – but it's a shame the spaces were designed for an age when everyone drove Austin 1100, not BMW X5s.

But there is a solution both to the parking precedent and to another news story that's been doing the rounds this week.

Apparently a third of us are so fat and lazy these days that we're costing the NHS a billion quid a year, largely because we can no longer be bothered to stroll to the corner shop.

Being stretched for time is no excuse for poor parking

So let's walk more.

I've spent years parking on the fringes of Southport on my shopping trips, saving a couple of quid in parking and doubtless extending my life slightly at the same time.

If you're a mum with three prams to push around or someone with a wheelchair or crutches then go ahead and use the town centre, but for the sake of a few minutes I'd much rather enjoy some exercise. Bit rainy? Use an umbrella.

Lots of shopping to carry? That's what bags are for.

I know this new-fangled walking thing is going to take a while to catch on, but just think of all the money you'll be saving.

Enough to buy a Triumph TR4 within a year, if the latest precedent is anything to go by.

David is the editor of Classic Car Weekly

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04 FIAT DUCATO MAXI 2.8 JTD 5SPD, white, PAS, E/W, remote locking, side door, CD player, nice large van.....£2,295 NO VAT

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Brand New Vauxhall Viva
1.0 SE A/C
£500 minimum part exchange

For just **£99 per month**
Over **47 months** with **£1,639.11 Customer deposit**

Cash Price	£9,330	Optional Final Payment	£3,308
Minimum Part Exchange	£500	Interest Charges	£770.11
Customer Deposit	£1,639.11	Total Amount Payable	£10,100.11
Amount of Credit	£7,190.89	APR Representative	3.7%
47 Monthly Payments	£99		

Brand New Vauxhall Corsa
1.4 Special Edition Energy 90PS 3dr
£500 minimum part exchange

For just **£155 per month**
Over **47 months** with **£155 Customer deposit**

Cash Price	£12,600	47 Monthly Payments	£155.09
Deposit Allowance	£1,800	Optional Final Payment	£3,887
Minimum Part Exchange	£500	Interest Charges	£1,031.23
Customer Deposit	£155	Total Amount Payable	£13,929.23
Amount of Credit	£10,145	APR Representative	4.8%

Brand New Vauxhall Corsa
1.4 Special Edition Energy 90PS 5dr
£500 minimum part exchange

For just **£165 per month**
Over **47 months** with **£165 Customer deposit**

Cash Price	£13,200	47 Monthly Payments	£165.85
Deposit Allowance	£1,800	Optional Final Payment	£4,025
Minimum Part Exchange	£500	Interest Charges	£1,084.95
Customer Deposit	£165	Total Amount Payable	£14,582.95
Amount of Credit	£10,735	APR Representative	4.7%

Brand New Vauxhall Adam
1.2i Energised 3dr
£500 minimum part exchange

For just **£179 per month**
Over **47 months** with **£299 Customer deposit**

Cash Price	£13,907.29	47 Monthly Payments	£179
Deposit Allowance	£1,600	Optional Final Payment	£4,254
Minimum Part Exchange	£500	Interest Charges	£1,158.71
Customer Deposit	£299	Total Amount Payable	£15,066
Amount of Credit	£11,508.29	APR Representative	3.7%

Brand New Vauxhall Corsa
1.4 Limited Edition 90PS 3dr
£500 minimum part exchange

For just **£189 per month**
Over **47 months** with **£189 Customer deposit**

Cash Price	£14,475	47 Monthly Payments	£189.90
Deposit Allowance	£1,800	Optional Final Payment	£4,255
Minimum Part Exchange	£500	Interest Charges	£1,194.30
Customer Deposit	£189	Total Amount Payable	£15,967.30
Amount of Credit	£11,986	APR Representative	4.6%

Brand New Vauxhall Astra
1.0T SRi 5dr
£500 minimum part exchange

For just **£219 per month**
Over **47 months** with **£499 Customer deposit**

Cash Price	£17,999	47 Monthly Payments	£219.85
Deposit Allowance	£2,000	Optional Final Payment	£6,226
Minimum Part Exchange	£500	Interest Charges	£1,558.95
Customer Deposit	£499	Total Amount Payable	£19,557.95
Amount of Credit	£15,000	APR Representative	3.7%

Brand New Vauxhall Mokka X
1.4T Active
£500 minimum part exchange

For just **£229 per month**
Over **47 months** with **£499 Customer deposit**

Cash Price	£18,944.67	47 Monthly Payments	£229
Deposit Allowance	£2,400	Optional Final Payment	£6,394
Minimum Part Exchange	£500	Interest Charges	£1,611.33
Customer Deposit	£499	Total Amount Payable	£20,556
Amount of Credit	£15,545.67	APR Representative	3.7%

06 Ormskirk
152 County Road
Ormskirk
L39 1NW

01695 572551
www.06vauxhall.co.uk

06 Skelmersdale
Inchfield
Skelmersdale
WN8 6LZ

01695 554000
www.06vauxhall.co.uk

CUSTOMER EXCELLENCE AWARD 2017

VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 12.7 (22.3) – 74.3 (3.8), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) – 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) – 83.1 (3.4). CO_2 emissions: 373 - 89g/km.#

On the road prices include number plates, delivery, Vehicle Excise Duty, fi rst registration fee and VAT. Offers available on orders or registrations between 1 April and 3 July 2017, subject to availability. Offers available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 units (purchase only excluding B2B supported units). All other sales categories are excluded; cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all Retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. #Fuel consumption information is offi cial government environmental data, tested in accordance with the relevant EU directive. Offi cial EU-regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. General Motors UK Limited t/a Vauxhall Motors reserves the right to change, amend or withdraw this offer at any point in time. Correct at time of going to press. Price promise based on saving a like for like quote within a 20-mile radius from a main Vauxhall dealer. All prices shown include a minimum part exchange allowance of £500.

06 Ormskirk

152 County Road
Ormskirk
L39 1NW
01695 572551

Inchfield
Skelmersdale
WN8 6LZ
01695 554000

www.06vauxhall.co.uk

CUSTOMER EXCELLENCE AWARD 2017

VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Provisional fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall Corsa Limited Edition 1.4i (75PS) ecoFLEX: Urban: 41.5 (6.8), Extra-urban: 65.7 (4.3), Combined: 54.3 (5.2). CO_2 emissions: 120g/km.#

Personal contract hire offer on Corsa Limited Edition 1.4i 75PS ecoFLEX 3-Door including free of charge brilliant paint on vehicles ordered by 3 July 2017, subject to availability and status. Age 18+ only. Figures based on a non-maintenance contract hire package with advance rental of £4,186, then 35 monthly rentals of £182. Excess miles over contracted mileage of 24,000 over 36 months charged at 6.64 pence per mile. Excess charges also apply if you breach manufacturer servicing or maintenance guidelines or if the car exceeds BVRLA Fair Wear & Tear guidelines for its age/mileage when it is returned to Vauxhall Leasing. Package includes Road Fund Licence and Vauxhall Assistance. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. Prices and details are subject to change without notice. For full specification and Ts&Cs contact your local Retailer. **You will not own the car.** ALD Automotive Ltd., trading as Vauxhall Leasing, BS16 7LB. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. *OnStar is available on selected models. OnStar and 4G Wi-Fi hotspot services require activation and are subject to mobile network coverage and availability. Wi-Fi hotspot service requires account with nominated mobile network operator. Charges apply after free trial period. The OnStar subscription packages could be different from the services included in the free trial package. Terms and conditions apply. Check vauxhall.co.uk/onstar for details of availability, coverage, and charges or ask your Vauxhall retailer. Vehicles purchased without OnStar cannot have the required technology retro-fitted. Destination download is only available on vehicles with factory installed navigation system. #Fuel consumption information is official government environmental data, tested in accordance with the relevant EU directive. Official EU-regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. General Motors UK Limited t/a Vauxhall Motors reserves the right to change, amend or withdraw this offer at any point in time. Correct at time of going to print.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (1/100km) Ford car range: urban 53.3 - 35.3 (5.3 - 8.0), extra urban 76.4 - 60.1 (3.7 - 4.7), combined 65.7 - 47.9 (4.3 - 5.9). Official CO2 emission 99.0 - 136.0g/km. *Terms and conditions apply.

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Over 200 used cars across our two-family owned and run businesses, ALL makes, ALL models and ALL with **the areas LOWEST PRICES.** Stock changes daily so if you do not see the car you are looking for, we'll find it.

WHEN YOU BUY FROM 06 VAUXHALL, YOU BUY WITH COMPLETE CONFIDENCE!

ORMSKIRK - USED - TO GO

09 Reg Vauxhall Astra 5dr 1.4i 16v Sxi
• Star Silver • 39,153 Miles • Cash Price £3,499

NO DEPOSIT & £69 PER MONTH

08 Reg Vauxhall Corsa Breeze
• Blue • 24,851 Miles • Cash Price £3,999

NO DEPOSIT & £79 PER MONTH

08 Reg Fiat 500 Sport RHD
• Yellow • 57,411 Miles • Cash Price £4,499

NO DEPOSIT & £89 PER MONTH

11 Reg Peugeot 207 Envy
• Blue • 13,278 Miles • Cash Price £4,499

NO DEPOSIT & £89 PER MONTH

12 Reg Vauxhall Combo Van 1.7 CDTi
• Glacier White • 74,556 Miles • Cash Price £4,699

NO DEPOSIT & £99 PER MONTH

10 Citreon DS3 DStyle
• Red • 42,032 Miles • Cash Price £5,999

NO DEPOSIT & £109 PER MONTH

Plus, a HUGE SELECTION of used cars from £69 per month

06 REG VAUXHALL CORSA ACTIVE 1.2 16V, STAR SILVER 38752 MILES £2999
58 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.2I CLUB A/C, BLUE 44736 MILES £3499
59 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.4I 16V ACTIVE, FLAME RED 29895 MILES £3999
09 REG FORD FIESTA ZETEC 82, BLACK 63003 MILES £4499
56 REG VAUXHALL CORSA SXI A/C, BLACK 16610 MILES £4499
58 REG VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH 60, SILVER 44776 MILES £4499
60 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.2I VVT ENERGY A/C, SILVER 48000 MILES £4499
11 REG VAUXHALL CORSA SXI, SILVER 44000 MILES £4999
58 REG FIAT 500 LOUNGE RHD, BLUE 30013 MILES £4999
12 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.4 EXCLUSIV A/C, BLACK 37185 MILES £5499
09 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 5DR 1.8I ELITE, POMEGRANATE RED 50941 MILES £5499
12 REG VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4I 100PS SE A/C, ORIENTAL BLUE 25000 MILES £5999
14 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.2I VVT EXCITE A/C, PEPPER DUST 32252 MILES £5999
62 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.2I VVT ACTIVE A/C, TECHNICAL GREY 41770 MILES £5999
13 REG FIAT 500 LOUNGE, WHITE 30947 MILES £5999
14 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.3CDTI EXCITE A/C ECOFLEX, PEPPER DUST 40599 MILES £5999
12 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.4I VVT EXCITE, SILVER LAKE 47764 MILES £6499
13 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.0I 12V ACTIVE A/C, BLACK SAPPHIRE 15400 MILES £6499
14 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.4I VVT 100PS SRI, SILVER 46264 MILES £6999
64 REG VAUXHALL ADAM HAT 1.2 70PS JAM, WHITE 12486 MILES £6999
14 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.2I VVT EXCITE A/C, SOVEREIGN SILVER 20903 MILES £6999
13 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.6I VVT 115PS ENERGY, GREY 28427 MILES £6999
63 REG VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 5DR 1.6I 16V EXCLUSIV, ROYAL BLUE 23218 MILES £6999
63 REG VAUXHALL MERIVA 5DR 1.4I VVT 100PS TECH LINE A/C, PEPPER DUST 28215 MILES £6999
VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.3CDTI 95PS SE A/C ECOFLEX, CRINAN BLUE 33702 MILES £7499
15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.2 70PS EXCITE A/C, CARBON FLASH 24643 MILES £7499
15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.2 70PS STING, FLAME RED 8231 MILES £7499
14 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.4 SE A/C AUTO, CRINAN BLUE 34350 MILES £7999
14 REG VAUXHALL MERIVA 5DR 1.4I VVT 100PS TECH LINE, GREY 25238 MILES £7999
13 REG VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 5DR 1.6I 16V EXCLUSIV, OLYMPIC WHITE 13428 MILES £7999
64 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.6I VVT 115PS EXCITE, POWER RED 9568 MILES £7999
63 REG RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE MEDIANAV, GREY 11442 MILES £8299
16 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR ENERGY 1.4 75PS A/C, CARBON FLASH 5984 MILES £8999
16 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.0T 115PS LIMITED EDITION, CARBON FLASH 6450 MILES £9496
65 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC COUPE 1.4I TURBO 140PS SPORT S/S, RED 13395 MILES £9496
14 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0CDTI 130 ENERGY, GREY 37667 MILES £9999
66 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.4 90PS SE ECOFLEX, GREY 7245 MILES £9999
11 REG SAAB 42803 LINEAR SE TID 150, BLACK 32893 MILES £9999
63 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SPORTS TOURER 2.0CDTI 120 SRI ECOFLEX, EMERALD GREEN 18812 MILES £10499
14 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 5DR 1.6 115PS EXCLUSIV S/S, VELVET RED 6790 MILES £10999
66 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.4 90PS SE AUTO, SHINY ROCK 6336 MILES £11499
66 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.4I VVT 100PS TECH LINE, GREY 11300 MILES £11999
16 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.0T 105PS DESIGN ECOFLEX S/S, WHITE 4066 MILES £12399
15 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 5DR 1.6 115PS EXCLUSIV S/S, SOVEREIGN SILVER 8528 MILES £12499
65 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.0T 105PS SRI ECOFLEX S/S, BLACK 9860 MILES £12999
16 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6CDTI 136 SRI NAV ECOFLEX, BLACK 12809 MILES £12999
15 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 5DR 1.7 CDTI 130PS EXCLUSIV S/S, SATIN STEEL GREY 16561 MILES £12999
65 REG VAUXHALL ZAFIRA TOURER 1.6 CDTI 136 SRI ECOFLEX S/S, BLACK 18741 MILES £13299
16 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 5DR 1.4 140 TURBO EXCLUSIV S/S, SUMMIT WHITE MILES £13499
16 REG VAUXHALL CASCADA 2DR CVTBL 1.4 TURBO 140 SE S/S, SUMMIT WHITE 9542 MILES £14499
15 REG TOYOTA RAV4 ICON D-4D, BLACK 18704 MILES £17499
16 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.4T 150PS ELITE NAV AUTO S/S, SOVEREIGN SILVER 4816 MILES £17699

SKELMERSDALE - USED - TO GO

56 Reg Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 SXi+ 3dr
• Red • Cash Price £2,499

NO DEPOSIT & £50 PER MONTH

09 Reg Ford Ka 1.2 3dr Studio
• Blue • Cash Price £3,499

NO DEPOSIT & £70 PER MONTH

09 Reg Vauxhall Astra 5dr 1.4i Breeze
• Metro Blue • Cash Price £3,999

NO DEPOSIT & £80 PER MONTH

12 Reg Chevrolet Spark 1.0 Plus 5dr
• Silver • Cash Price £3,999

NO DEPOSIT & £80 PER MONTH

60 Reg Suzuki 1.3 Swift SZ2
• Orange • Cash Price £3,999

NO DEPOSIT & £80 PER MONTH

63 Reg Vauxhall Adam 1.2 70ps 3dr Jam
• Green Spotting • Cash Price £4,999

NO DEPOSIT & £100 PER MONTH

Plus, a HUGE SELECTION of used cars from £70 per month

12 REG VAUXHALL AGILA 5DR 1.2 16V SE, MOROCCAN BLUE £4699
61 REG HYUNDAI I10 ACTIVE 1.2 3DR, GREY £5499
12 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.2I SE A/C, SILVER £5499
61 REG VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4I 100PS EXCLUSIV A/C, BLACK £5499
57 REG CHEVROLET CAPTIVA LT 5S VCDI 2.0, BLUE £5499
14 REG TOYOTA AYGO MOVE VVT-I 1.0, BLUE £5699
62 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.2I 16V ACTIVE A/C, FLAME RED £5999
14 REG SUZUKI SPLASH SZ2 1.0 5DR, BLACK £5999
60 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.7CDTI 125PS SRI ECOFLEX, GREY £5999
64 REG VAUXHALL CORSA EXCITE 1.2 5DR, WHITE £6499
14 REG VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 1.4 A/C, SILVER £6999
12 REG CITROEN DS3 DSTYLE + 1.6 3DR, BLUE £6999
66 REG VAUXHALL VIVA 5DR 1.0I 75PS SE A/C, SPARKLING BLUE £7499
66 REG VAUXHALL VIVA 5DR 1.0I 75PS SE A/C, SUMMIT WHITE £7499
14 REG FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.2 5DR, BLACK £7499
16 REG FIAT 500 POP STAR 1.2 3DR, BLACK £7699
63 REG VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 5DR 1.7CDTI 110PS DESIGN NAV ECOFLEX, RED £7999
60 REG AUDI A3 5DR SPORTBACK 1.4 TFSI SPORT, BLACK £7999
63 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA SPORTS TOURER 1.7CDTI 130 SE ECOFLEX S/S, RED £7999
15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.4 90PS SRI ECOFLEX, RED £7999
13 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 5DR 2.0CDTI 160 SE NAV, BLACK £7999
13 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0CDTI 160 SE NAV, SILVER £8499
65 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.4I VVT 100PS SRI, BLACK £8499
15 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI AUTO 1.6, GREY £8499
16 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.0T 115PS LIMITED EDITION, CARBON FLASH £8999
13 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 2.0CDTI 165PS ELITE AUTO, GREY £8999
64 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR 1.4T 100PS LIMITED EDITION S/S, GREY £8999
14 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA SRI 1.8 5DR, WHITE £8999
16 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 3DR ENERGY 1.4 75PS A/C, SUMMIT WHITE £9499
63 REG SKODA OCTAVIA TDI S DSG 1.6 AUTO, SILVER £9499
15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.4 90PS SE AUTO, SILVER £9499
66 REG VAUXHALL CORSA SRI ECOFLEX 1.4 3DR, RED £9499
63 REG NISSAN JUKE N-TEC 1.6 5DR, RED £9499
66 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 5DR 1.4 90PS SE ECOFLEX, SILVER £9999
13 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 EXCLUSIV 5DR S/S, BLACK £9999
13 REG FORD MONDEO 2.0 TITANIUM X TDCI 163, BLACK £10699
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66 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.4I VVT 100PS TECH LINE, GREY £11999
64 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 5DR 1.7 CDTI 130PS EXCLUSIV S/S, CARBON FLASH £11999
63 REG VAUXHALL ANTARA 5DR 2.2 CDTI 16V 163PS DIAMOND AU, GREY £12000
62 REG MERCEDES-BENZ C180 EXECUTIVE 1.6 SE BLUE-CY, SILVER £12499
16 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6CDTI 136 SRI NAV S/S, WHITE £12999
16 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6CDTI 136 SRI NAV, SILVER £12999
16 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA COUPE GTC 1.4 TURBO 140 SRI S/S, OLYMPIC WHITE £13999
66 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 5DR 1.4T 125PS ENERGY, DEEP SKY BLUE £13999
16 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA SPORTS TOURER 1.6CDTI 136 SRI NAV, SILVER £14500
16 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 SRI NAV CDTI ECOFLEX, RED £14681
16 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 ELITE NAV CDTI AUTO, RED £15499

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Saturday 9.00 - 17.00 Sunday 11.00 - 17.00

CUSTOMER EXCELLENCE AWARD 2017

VAUXHALL

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CASH PRICE	CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	AMOUNT OF CREDIT	1 MONTHLY PAYMENT	59 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	REPRESENTATIVE APR
£2,699	£0	£2,699	£54	£54	£3,536.80	8.9%

NO DEPOSIT OR 0% APR FINANCE AVAILABLE

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15 Ford Focus 1.5 Tdci Zetec 5 Dr

- New Shape
- 1 Owner
- FSH
- Alloys

New In

NO DEPOSIT

Only £11,495

14 Vauxhall Insignia Cdti Sri VXR Line Nav Estate

- 38000 Miles
- Leather
- Sat Nav
- Fully Loaded

New In

NO DEPOSIT

Only £12,995

61 Mercedes A160 Se 5 Dr

- 40000 Miles
- Alloys
- Air Con

No Deposit £29 A WEEK

Only £5,995

62 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Tdci 5 Dr

- 1 Owner
- 59000 Miles
- Air Con

Was £6,495

No Deposit £29 A WEEK

Only £5,995

62 Peugeot 308 1.6 Hdi 5 Dr

- Alloys
- CD Player
- Air Con

Was £6,495

No Deposit £29 A WEEK

Only £5,995

11 Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 Se 5 Dr

- Panoramic Sunroof
- 53000 Miles

Was £7,495

No Deposit £34 A WEEK

Only £5,995

61 VW Golf 1.6 Tdi Match 5 Dr

- Alloys
- Air Con
- CD Player

Was £7,495

No Deposit £34 A WEEK

Only £6,995

62 Peugeot 308 1.6 Hdi Sportium 5 Dr

- 22000 Miles
- Alloys
- FSH
- CD Player

Was £7,695

No Deposit £34 A WEEK

Only £6,995

13 Nissan Note 1.6 N Tech + Auto

- 1 Owner
- Sat Nav
- Alloys
- Rear Privacy

Was £7,795

No Deposit £34 A WEEK

Only £6,995

62 Mini One

- FSH
- Alloys
- Rear Privacy
- CD Player

Was £8,495

No Deposit £34 A WEEK

Only £6,995

12 Ford Mondeo TDCi Zetec 5 Dr

- FSH
- 1 Owner
- Alloys
- Air Con

Was £7,995

No Deposit £37 A WEEK

Only £7,495

63 Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Estate

- 1 Owner
- FSH
- Alloys
- Air Con

No Deposit £39 A WEEK

Only £7,995

13 Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 Cdti Tech Line 5 Dr

- 1 Owner
- 60000 Miles
- Alloys
- Air Con

No Deposit £39 A WEEK

Only £7,995

13 Peugeot Partner 1.6 Diesel Tepee Outdoor

- 1 Owner
- 47000 Miles
- FSH
- Alloys

Was £8,495

No Deposit £39 A WEEK

Only £7,995

11 Nissan Qashqai 1.5 Dci 5 Dr

- Alloys
- Air Con
- CD Player

No Deposit £43 A WEEK

Only £8,695

14 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 Cdti Limited Edition 5 Dr

- Full Leather
- Upgraded alloys
- Air Con

No Deposit £44 A WEEK

Only £8,995

63 Honda Civic 1.6 Dti SE 5 Dr

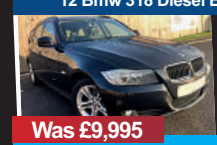
- 44000 Miles
- FSH
- Alloys
- Air Con

Was £9,995

No Deposit £44 A WEEK

Only £8,995

12 Bmw 318 Diesel Estate



- FSH
- Air Con
- CD Player
- Alloys

Was £9,995

No Deposit £47 A WEEK

Only £9,495

60 Audi A1 1.6 Tdi Sport 3 Dr

- Upgraded Alloys
- 21000 Miles
- 1/2 Leather

Was £9,995

No Deposit £47 A WEEK

Only £9,495

63 Ford Grand C Max Tdci 7 Seater

- 1 Owner
- FSH
- 59000 Miles
- Air Con

Was £10,695

No Deposit £49 A WEEK

Only £9,995

12 Volvo S60 1.6 Diesel R Design

- 57000 Miles
- Alloys
- Air Con
- CD Player

Was £10,995

NO DEPOSIT

Only £10,495

11 Bmw 320 D M Sport Auto 4 Dr

- 2 Owners
- FSH
- Leather
- M Sport Alloys

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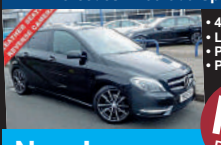

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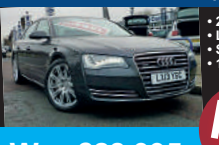

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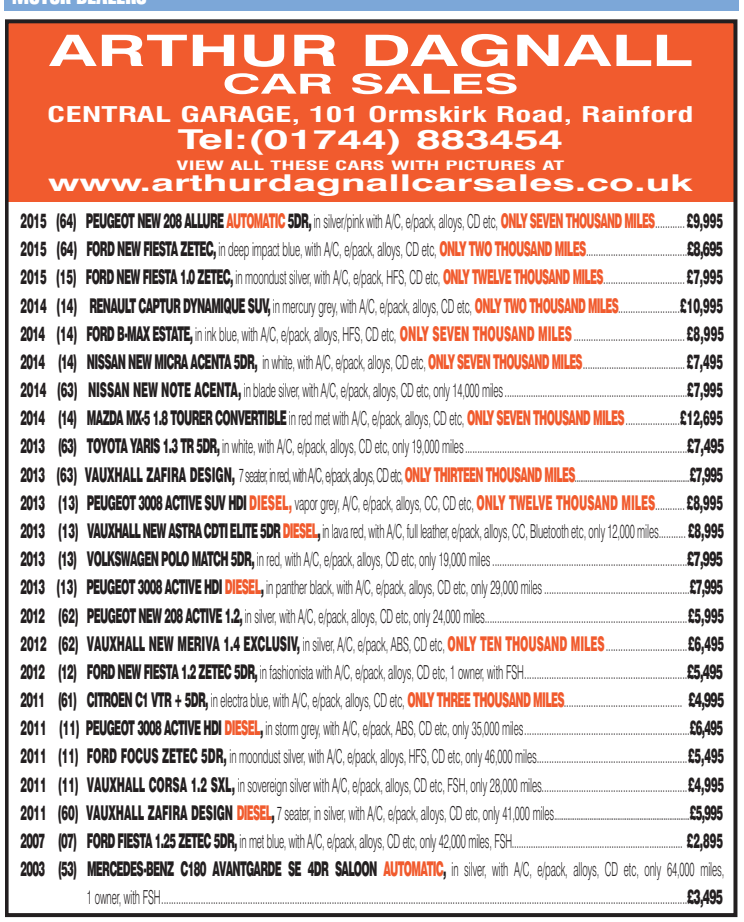
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Burscough stadium plans are resubmitted to council

Report by **Henry James**

PROPOSALS put forward by Chequer Properties to create a replacement football ground for Burscough FC next to Victoria Park, off Mart Lane are due to be heard by the Planning Committee at West Lancashire Borough Council on Thursday, April 13.

The application was withdrawn from the Planning Committee in November by officers as "additional correspondence was submitted that required further consideration."

The application states that it is proposed to relocate the existing Burscough FC to the site and create the following: a main covered stand on the western side of the pitch with the capacity for 480 seats; a secondary covered stand on the eastern side of the pitch measuring for standing only; a two storey clubhouse.

The ground floor of the clubhouse will incorporate changing facilities and toilets with a storage area.

The first floor is for use as a bar/function.

Burscough Parish Council and Burscough Independent Supporters Association have both objected to the proposals.

The parish council object for the following reasons: that much of the submitted drainage information is "incorrect"; that the access road is too close to the Barons Bar and would interfere with the effective operation of an emergency exit; the transport plan is not "deliverable"; that the proposed stadium "is smaller" than the existing ground and express concern that temporary and "low quality" facilities may be in place for a long time before being replaced by permanent facilities.

Staff at Martin Mere Wetland Centre have also objected to the development due to "inadequate" bird surveys.

Officers are recommending that the decision to grant planning permission be delegated to the director of development and regeneration in consultation with the chairman or vice chairman of the Planning Committee.

Officers have written in a report for the meeting: "The site is located within the Green Belt and the development constitutes inappropriate development in the Green Belt.

"However, very special circumstances have been demonstrated to outweigh the total harm to the Green Belt, the design and appearance of the development is considered acceptable, as is the impact on neighbouring residential amenity and drainage."

Meanwhile Burscough face a daunting trip across country this Saturday to Scarborough Athletic.

An appeal has gone up from the Skelmersdale United board for some good support for their last four home games of the season, especially as they may be their last in Skelmersdale for a while.

The club are also looking for businesses to get involved at the club, either financially or with advice on the present lease situation at the ground. Anyone who can help is asked to call 01695 575958.

Skelmersdale players get some close attention from the Halesowen midfield. Picture by John Driscoll

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Skem hurt again by weakness defending at set-pieces

Halesowen Town 1
Skelmersdale United 0

SKELMERSDALE'S inability to defend set-pieces came back to bite them again with the only goal of the game coming from a corner.

A headed goal midway through the second half was enough to give the home side all three points, despite Skelmersdale missing a penalty soon afterwards.

The first half will be remembered for the antics of a wayward Beagle, who invaded the pitch for an entire seven and a half minutes before being caught, with the footage going viral on the internet and being viewed thousands of times.

The first half was a scrappy affair; the highlight from a football perspective was a shot from 20 yards by Halesowen's Lee Chilton that Skelmersdale goalkeeper Chris Cheetham dealt with via a full length dive to his right.

Midway through the half a pitch invasion by the dog was the most memorable moment, deftly avoiding capture for a full seven minutes.

The second-half was a lot better as the hosts started the half strongly.

Chilton put a shot across the face of goal and Asa Charlton lobbed the ball over the Skem crossbar in the first few minutes.

Defending corners have been Skelmersdale's Achilles' heel for a while now and it occurred again in the 55th minute.

Halesowen sent a corner curling onto the edge of the six yard box and Bradley Lewis met the ball on the run rising above two static defenders.

His powerful header went low to the centre of the goal, hitting a defender on the goal-line on route to the back of the net.

Three minutes later Skem got a chance to equalise when Steve Gillespie chased a bouncing ball into the penalty area, and a clumsy challenge saw a penalty given. The former Colchester United player took the spot-kick himself, but it was saved.

Skem pushed hard to rescue a point, but the chance was gone.

Alan Rogers has another blank midweek again this week to work on his young squad.

If he produces as much improvement again they must have every chance of beating a struggling Frickley Athletic at the Uretek Stadium on Saturday. It's a fair bet he will focus some time on defending corners.

Linnets let in six to be left on the brink of relegation

Colwyn Bay 6
Burscough 0

BURSCOUGH were left on the brink of relegation after suffering a heavy defeat at Colwyn Bay on Saturday.

After conceding six in North Wales on Saturday, the Linnets were due to travel to Prescot Cables last night (Tuesday) and anything other than victory would confirm relegation.

The opening 34 minutes were crucial to the outcome against Colwyn Bay.

Burscough hit the post and the crossbar before Colwyn Bay had woken up.

After 14 minutes Rob Doran beat everyone to a corner and his header hit the crossbar.

Then on 21 minutes, former Skelmersdale midfielder Tony Donaldson smashed a shot against the post with home goalkeeper Kieran Wolland well beaten as Burscough started out on the front foot.

But then the home team woke up and they took precisely 12 minutes to kill off the Linnets hopes.

They scored three times by the 34th minute amid some dreadful Burscough defending.

It was another former Skelmersdale player, Jamie Rainford who put Burscough on the road to ruin, playing a neat one-two with Ashley Mulholland on the Linnets 18 yard line before slotting low into the net.

In the 32nd minute Mulholland romped into acres of space on the left before cutting inside a defender's challenge and firing inside the near post to make it 2-0.

The previous scorers Mulholland and Rainford became providers on 34 minutes to present Danny Andrews with a tap-in, working the ball easily down the left-wing and pulling it back across goal.

Colwyn right-back Will Booth strode forward to end the game as a contest moments before the interval after Burscough struggled to clear the ball.

Driving a low shot from around 20 yards across the Linnets backline into the far corner to make it 4-0 at half-time.

It was 5-0 on 58 minutes as Rainford was allowed far too much time and space in the Burscough penalty area, he duly controlled the ball turned and put a clinical effort into the bottom corner from 15 yards.

Rainford completed his hat-trick four minutes from full-time, pouncing on a rebound after a Louis Corrigan corner wasn't cleared properly.

If one of those early close things had gone into the net who knows what might have happened?

But Burscough are now in a desperate situation and anything other than a victory at Prescot Cables last night would see them relegated.

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Every year new and exciting wedding trends grace our social media feeds, our newspapers and our magazines and 2017 is no different. In fact, there has been a sharp increase in the rise of unique and unusual trends couples are incorporating into their wedding experience. Having a beautiful day is a priority for all brides and grooms and making it extra special for you and your guests is so important. But how do you work your way through the jungle of colour schemes, mood boards and Pinterest perfect wedding pictures to find what really works for you as a couple? How do you know that what you like now will still be on trend when your wedding comes around? It's hard to know where to start. In this years Focus on Weddings supplement we will be discussing some of the stand out trends for this year and next, in the hope to inspire your big day!

From vintage chic to going green we will give you the low down of what we are predicting will be the most stylish wedding season yet.

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HURLSTON HALL

A multi-million-pound investment in Hurlston Hall's conference facilities is already reaping rewards with wedding bookings at the West Lancashire venues up considerably on last year.

Owners at Hurlston invested £3 million in the venue creating a first-floor facility which can cater for up to 300, more than anywhere in the local area, with wrap-around balconies and views across the sweeping golf course beyond.

"We've had so many bookings for weddings already, it's been an amazing start to the year," says managing director Aoife O'Brien. "We've had lots of people come to us to visit the restaurant or golf range and they see the quality of the venue and that's a clincher - wedding bookings are through the roof."

The investment programme took more than 16 months to complete and catapults the venue into the top rankings for event bookings. It included a double storey extension to the main building more than doubling the capacity of the conference and wedding facilities, two new bars and a break out area.

Money has also been invested in the whole wedding experience with two beautifully restored cottages on site for the wedding party to stay after the wedding and the creation of private dining room which is proving popular with couples planning a pre-wedding get together for families.

"We've spent a lot of time thinking about what would make this the perfect wedding venue and how we can maximise on our fabulous setting and all the wonderful photo opportunities that represents." Aoife adds.

"We're fully licenced now and with the cottages up and running we can offer everything the wedding party could need in a seamless 'under one roof' venue."

THE LOOK

With Pantone releasing Greenery as the colour of the year, couples are introducing all things nature into their wedding day. Outdoor weddings are on the up and floral installations are huge! Who doesn't love a hanging floral arrangement? Flower Walls, foliage centrepieces and moss runners are all hot looks from designers this year and add instant Wow factor. But if the idea of the outdoors makes your quiver, there are lots of subtle ways to bring nature into your wedding day. Teaming greenery with accents of blush, gold and nude will give your day a fresh natural feel, offering your guests favours such as seeds or pot plants will bring the outdoors in and ensuring your venue offers lots of light airy space will make your colours stand out and your guests feel like they are in a large open space.

Greenery also works really well with the rustic vintage trend that we are seeing a lot of. Foliage curled around vintage ladders displaying pictures of the happy couple. How about hiring a vintage bike prop to dress with flowers or signs?

Lighting is such a clever way of making any venue look amazing. Soft pink or gold up lighting provides a relaxing atmosphere for your guests and really compliments any theme while hanging bulbs or fairy lights give your venue a romantic atmosphere. Speak to a venue dressing professional to find out how to make the most out of your venue.

2018 insider style tip

Marble and metallic are going to be huge this year. Team them with your favourite colour for a chic, modern vibe.

HURLSTON HALL
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Email our dedicated wedding planner Amy: amy.carr@hurlstonhall.co.uk

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FOOD AND DRINK

If you want to stray away from a typically traditional wedding, you're working to a budget or you just want something to make your day stand out. Stepping away from the normal wedding breakfast can be a great way to do any of those things. If you are working to a budget why not consider a later wedding and avoid the sit-down meal all together? Or why not keep up with the vintage trend and have a vintage tea party instead of a three-course meal?

Who said a wedding breakfast had to be Chicken or Beef? Speak to your venue about how flexible they can be in the kitchen and offer something personal to you, such as a full English, Mexican or Curry. Why not hire a funky food truck to give your wedding a festival vibe or put on a BBQ or hog roast to really fill up your guests?

Food stations are a great alternative to canapés or desserts and double up as entertainment for your guests - letting them get hands on. Try letting your guests build their own tacos, flavour their own popcorn or let them release their inner child with an ice cream station! Having a winter wedding? Let them toast marshmallows and add them to biscuits to make smores or offer a hot chocolate or mulled wine bar.

You can also dazzle them with a custom cocktail to toast you with rather than the usual glass of fizz. You can even team it with your theme. For example, if your theme is vintage serve it in a tea cup and teapot!

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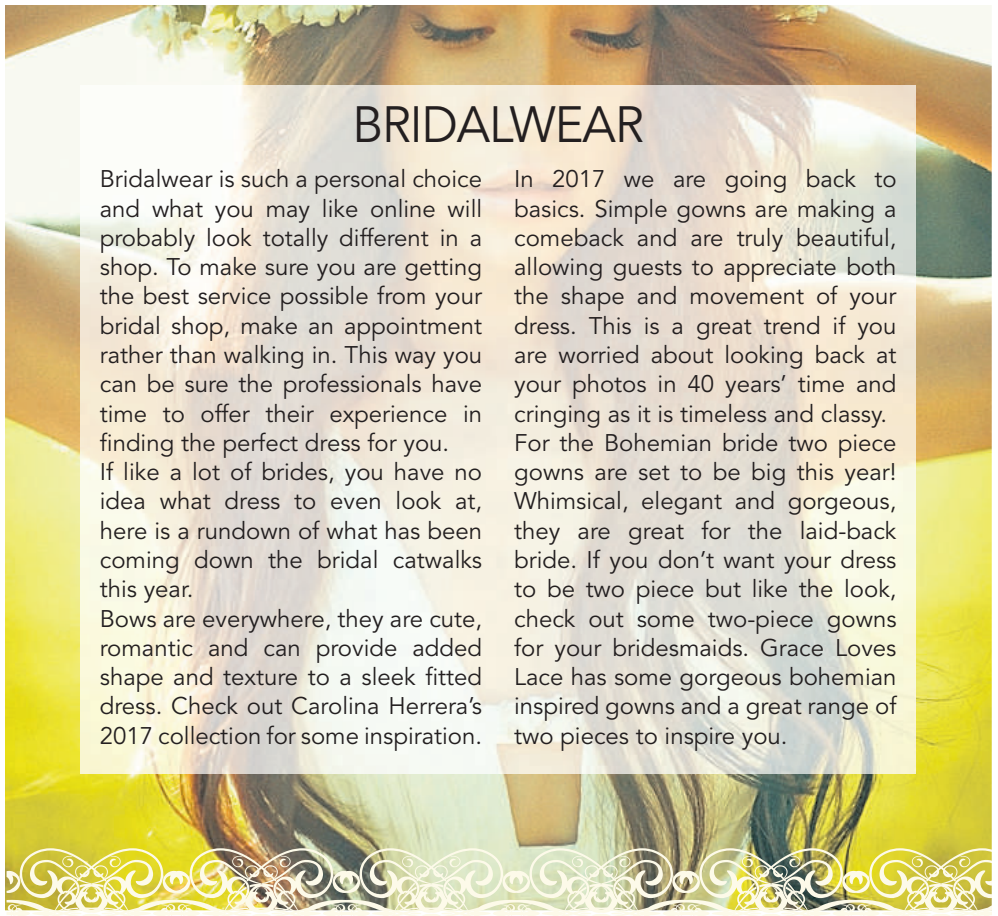


BRIDALWEAR

Bridalwear is such a personal choice and what you may like online will probably look totally different in a shop. To make sure you are getting the best service possible from your bridal shop, make an appointment rather than walking in. This way you can be sure the professionals have time to offer their experience in finding the perfect dress for you.

If like a lot of brides, you have no idea what dress to even look at, here is a rundown of what has been coming down the bridal catwalks this year.

Bows are everywhere, they are cute, romantic and can provide added shape and texture to a sleek fitted dress. Check out Carolina Herrera's 2017 collection for some inspiration.

In 2017 we are going back to basics. Simple gowns are making a comeback and are truly beautiful, allowing guests to appreciate both the shape and movement of your dress. This is a great trend if you are worried about looking back at your photos in 40 years' time and cringing as it is timeless and classy.

For the Bohemian bride two piece gowns are set to be big this year! Whimsical, elegant and gorgeous, they are great for the laid-back bride. If you don't want your dress to be two piece but like the look, check out some two-piece gowns for your bridesmaids. Grace Loves Lace has some gorgeous bohemian inspired gowns and a great range of two pieces to inspire you.

HOT FROX

Hotfrox, a Southport boutique, offers a stunning range of independent designer label, special occasion dresses including prom, evening and bridal wear.

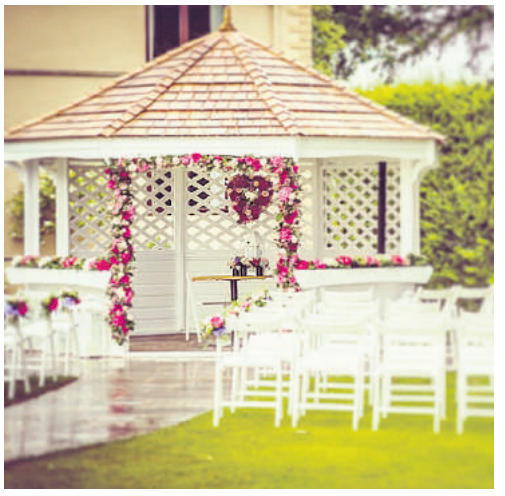
Select from a range of genres and sizes to suit everyone. Whether your dress style is classique, chic, sleek or sassy, at Hotfrox we are sure we have the dress for you!

Established in 2012, Hotfrox has since become a leading North West specialist formalwear boutique, with a wonderful selection of bridal and bridesmaid dresses. Customer service is extremely high on our agenda. We offer a bespoke, personalised service to help you find the dress of your dreams; we want you to feel and look a million dollars on your big day. Call 01704 807074 to book your changing room and staff support for the most fun you'll ever have trying on!

Featuring Pure Beauty Treatment Room
for all your beauty needs

One Fine Day Bridal stocks designs by
Rosa Clara & Rosa Clara Soft, Charlotte Balbier & Bridesmaids by Dessy & Watters

WEST TOWER



A romantic hideaway amidst the rolling Lancashire countryside near Ormskirk, West Tower is a hidden gem right on your doorstep dedicated entirely to weddings. Built as a family home in 1885, we invite you to enjoy every moment of your special day here, in your home away from home.

Say 'I do' in your chosen ceremony space, dine and celebrate in the stunning Ballroom, and spend the night in our beautiful bedrooms. As one of the most elegant wedding venues in Lancashire, a West Tower Wedding is unique and special.

Exclusively yours, we want to create your day, your way. With stunning views over our eight acres of beautiful countryside , characterful spaces, elegant décor and exceptional dining, West Tower is the perfect blank canvas for your Wedding Day.

When it comes to décor, at West Tower a romantic blend of elegance and heritage combines with contemporary style and a neutral colour palette to offer a sophisticated, rural sanctuary for your Wedding Day. Our splendid Ballroom is at the heart of every West Tower Wedding. As one of the most exciting wedding venues in the North West, our main room boasts floor-to-ceiling windows with far reaching views over the Lancashire countryside and beyond. It's neutral wooden floors, ivory walls and delicate chandeliers lend themselves perfectly to any colour scheme or wedding style.

At West Tower, every Civil Ceremony is unique. This is your moment and your exclusive wedding venue... and we're here to make sure it is everything you dreamt of. Celebrate either in our striking Ballroom, or the great outdoors. Why not experience your ceremony amongst the tranquility of our outside space. Our idyllic wooden pagoda, set in the landscaped garden is the choice for many couples.

We want your guests to leave West Tower remembering the exquisite dining and exceptional service they recieved at your Wedding. Our talented chefs use only the finest ingredients, including locally sourced produce, to create your wedding menu.

We have created an extensive menu package which can be easily adapted to suit your requirements and wedding style. Meal options for both the evening and breakfast, are endless.

We think it's rather special if you don't have to leave at the end of the evening. At West Tower, we have 19 luxurious bedrooms, accommodating up to 45 people overnight. Seven of these rooms, including the Bridal Suite, are in the main house and steeped in character. Twelve contemporary bedrooms can be found in the elegant Cottage and Coach House, separate from the main house, and with their own private entrances.

Fo all guests spending the night at West Tower, breakfast is included the following morning. Giving you the perfect opportunity to gather together your nearest and dearst for a final catch up before you say your fond farewell.

SINCE 1885

WEST TOWER

As soon as you enter the grounds of West Tower we know you will fall in love - we know this because so many brides do every year. With Bespoke wedding packages from **£6,515** for 2018 it's easy to see why. It's the quintessential country wedding venue that's closer to the city than you think.

Come along to our monthly Wedding Open Evenings on the first Tuesday of every month 4pm til 8pm.

The house and grounds are open for you to wander at your leisure giving plenty of inspiration of how your dream day could turn into a beautiful reality.

Our friendly and helpful team will be on hand along with our preferred partners to offer their advice on how your day will be unique to you. Entry is complimentary and includes a welcome glass of fizz on arrival.
We look forward to welcoming you.

Next Open Evenings Tuesday 2nd May & 6th June • Call 01695 423328
email sales@westtower.com or visit westtower.com

REPUTATION

Reputation Menswear Ltd is Southport's most exclusive designer menswear shop. The proprietor, Southport born and bred Malcolm Sykes, has been in the menswear business for 28 years. Reputation Menswear sells a wide range of labels including Armani, Tommy Hilfiger, Paul Shark, Lacoste and also hire wedding and formal wear from Ultimate and Peter Posh formal hire services .

Malcolm and his team pride themselves on offering a friendly, first class service with customer satisfaction being first and foremost.

At Reputation Menswear they take enormous pride in their products and hope that you will find something that you like.

In the words of Malcolm "I enjoy the interaction with customers, ensuring they find just what they're after. I like to keep it relaxed with no pressure, just a joke or two".

ONE FINE DAY

One Fine Day Bridal has recently relocated to Little Hoole and now share their space with a nail and beauty specialist, Pure Beauty and also a bridal make up and hair specialist.

With everything under one roof it's the a perfect way to make sure you're happy with your complete wedding day look. You can have your make up & hair trial and then you can try your dress on!

Pure Beauty is perfectly situated to give advice on facials you should have in preparation for your wedding day and ideal to have your nails done when picking your dress up from One Fine Day Bridal.

One Fine Day Bridal stocks stunning designs by Rosa Clara & Rosa Clara Soft, Charlotte Balbier & Bridesmaids by Dessy & Watters. All by appointment only.

PUT A RING ON IT

Weddings and rings seem to be inseparable. Almost every culture around the world uses a ring of some sort to signify marriage. The ring however is not always placed on the same finger - in some parts of the world, rings are placed around the neck or the ankle instead.

According to a tradition believed to have been derived from the Romans, the wedding ring is worn on the left hand ring finger because there was thought to be a vein in the finger, referred to as the 'Vena Amoris' or the 'Vein of Love' said to be directly connected to the heart.

The left hand however has only been used in this country since the 16th century. Before then the wedding band was worn on the right.

In some European countries today, the wedding bands are exchanged at the engagement and worn on the right hand and then swapped over to the left hand at the actual wedding.

In these countries too, the engagement is considered almost as binding as the marriage, hence the use of a wedding band.

The marriage ring in this country is usually placed on the third finger of the left hand.

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If you are looking for an idyllic country retreat to host your wedding then look no further than Oaklea Barns Guesthouse. If a country themed wedding or something out of the ordinary maybe a hog roast or barn dance theme is your wish list this is the perfect location.

Set amid 30 acres of stunning private gardens, racing stables and rolling Lancashire countryside, Oaklea Barns Guest House in Lydiate is an oasis of tranquillity. It's the perfect bolthole for brides and grooms who want to find some moments of calm and relaxation before or after the whirlwind of their wedding day.

The six luxurious guest suites at Oaklea Barns are both spacious and elegantly decorated. No expense has been spared to ensure that guests enjoy the finest home comforts, from the solid oak furniture, to the memory foam mattresses, flatscreen TVs and sleek ensuite bathrooms.

Every room can sleep up to four people, with comfortable sprung sofa beds in most of them – perfect for families, and especially bridal parties. The versatility doesn't stop there either, because the Lily Suite can transform into a twin or family room with a cot and the top floor Sunflower Suite comprises two adjoining rooms that can accommodate a family of two adults and four children or four adults, such as the bride and her bridesmaids.

Southport Road • L31 4HH • Tel **0151 526 0094**
Visit our website www.oakleabarn.co.uk

ENTERTAINMENT

This year entertainment is one of the biggest elements of the big day and people want more than just a DJ.
Theme bands are huge such as Ragtime, Jazz or Blues bands, with 7 or more musicians offering a hugely diverse range of music. People want to create an experience rather than just an event and really get their guests involved. Marryoke or Pop up Musicians add the surprise element to your wedding day and can be so much fun. They are a great talking point for guests.
Photo booths are still popular with many people opting for an open-air booth which adds to the event rather than distracts. Open Air booths means you can fit over 20 guests in to one photo and are so much fun to look back on.

If you really want to blow your guests away, hire acrobats or dancers to accompany your string quartet or band.

For the ceremony why not try something different. Rather than a string quartet, consider hiring a gospel choir. Do your research and you will find the cost is not as much as you may think.
Having a summer wedding or travel theme? Steel drums will transport your guests to a far-off island and provide a tropical, romantic feel.
Silent Discos have been making their way into the trend books lately and are a great way of keeping guests entertained if your venue gives you a cut off time for music.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Look **beautiful** on your wedding day

Every bride and her mother wants to look beautiful and radiant on their wedding day. So much time and effort goes into all the little details and it's easy to neglect yourself. Venue booked? Dress bought? Well now is the time to prepare yourself! There are so many solutions to improve the way you look and help you feel special on your big day. From simple things like your hair and nails to your skin's appearance, body shape and even an unwanted tattoo or blemish.

Radiant Living in Parbold has a vast range of treatments to make you look and feel your best... not forgetting Mum. If your skin is dull, tired or marked there's skin peels or Microneedling, or for unwanted hair there's the world leading Soprano ice hair removal laser. If you're worried about fitting into your dress or an uneven bulge, you can even freeze away stubborn fat with the award winning 3D Lipo fat reduction system, hailed as the effective alternative to surgical Liposuction. For Mum, it's all about anti-ageing. Non surgical solutions such as Icon Ultra lift, Tripollar radiofrequency and Oxyjet can help soften the lines and lift the jawline.

It's never too soon to start a treatment programme, and many brides or Mums will start preparations for the day 6 months before. With free consultations , the friendly experienced staff will provide honest advice on treatments, no matter how old or young, and whatever your budget.

In the beautiful village of Parbold, Radiant Living is a luxury Spa, salon and clinic with everything under one roof. In an extension to the original salon, it is now equipped with a private Spa with hot tub and steam room, perfect for a girly Spa Day before the Wedding. They even allow you to bring your own champagne and food with no extra charges, for a hen do or party. They also offer the latest beauty treatments including eyelash extensions, HD brows, LVL lashes, acrylic and gel nails, tanning and more.

Make sure you're glowing inside and out on your special day. With 12 years experience in skin, laser and beauty treatments you're sure to be in safe welcoming hands.

To book a free consultation or for advice call Radiant Living on 01257 463464 or visit radiantliving.co.uk

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TRENDS TO LOOK OUT FOR

Now we have covered the main aspects of your day, here are some other trends that we think are set to stick around.

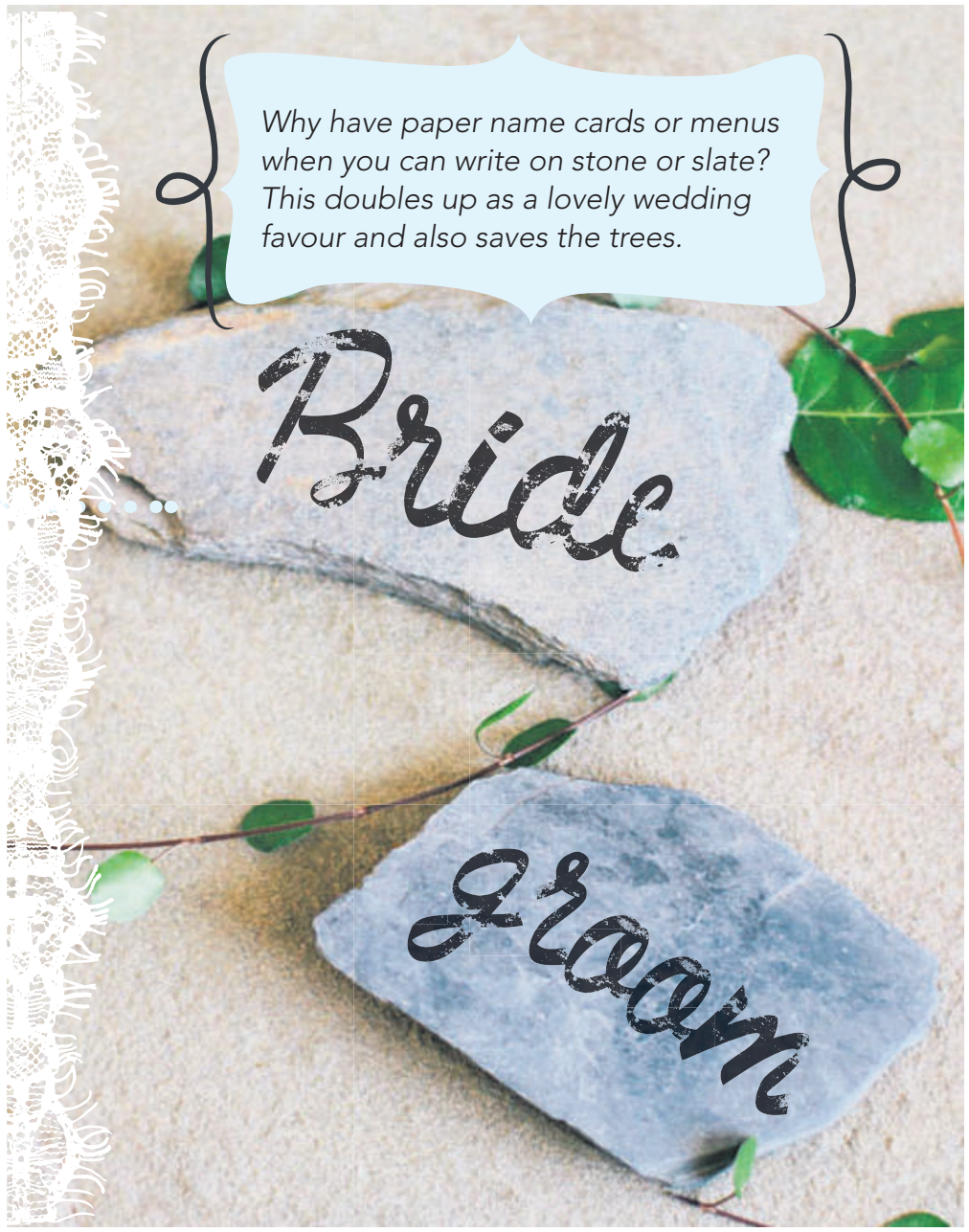
Unplugged Weddings. Last year was all about the custom hashtags and Instagram posts, which is great for the after party, but why pay for a professional photographer to take pictures of everybody taking pictures? This is why couples are opting to ask their guests to leave their phones alone during the ceremony. It's a bold ask in this day and age but we can guarantee they will enjoy the experience much more.

Image Mapping Technology. Do you want to transform your venue with thousands of pounds worth of flowers yet don't have the budget? Or maybe you want a Christmas Winter Wonderland but can't make it snow? Image mapping projects moving pictures and lights on to all the walls and ceilings of your venue to help create anything you want! It is tech forward and can save you money on your dream décor.

Earth Friendly Weddings. More and more couples are wanting to reduce their spend and their carbon footprint with their wedding day and there are many different ways to do so.

Instead of a favour, donate to a charity on behalf of your guests. Use locally sourced, in season flowers and food to add an artisan factor to your day. Instead of throwing your flowers away, donate them to a local nursing home for others to enjoy!

*Editorial supplied by Sharrona at Harper & Grace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